January 6, 1944

AIR MAIL

The Rev. B. J. Bingle
Box 1027
College, Alaska

Dear Bert:

Dr. Keeler has referred to me your letter of December 15, in which you say you are sending him a map passed by the Canadian censors, showing your work in that area. Up to the present time the map has not been received, but we hope it will arrive, because it will give us additional information concerning the territory which you are covering.

We note your willingness to go over the line into Canada and give some spiritual ministry to those there without benefit of clergy. We have presented this problem to church leaders in Canada, and have asked them to do something about it. Meanwhile, it is our feeling here in the office, that while this is a needy work and ought to be done, it is not your primary responsibility. We can see the possibility of difficulty with Canadian church leaders if you go across the border too frequently. You are so devoted to the cause of Christ, that every new area which remains without ministry makes a tug upon your heart, and you feel you ought to do something about it. However, we feel it would be wise for you to confine your efforts to the already too large territory on the Alaskan side of the border. From your reports, we would feel that you have much more to do there than is humanly possible even for two of you to do.

We are concerned about this matter of your car. We had settled our minds in regard to it when repairs had been made at Dr. Keeler's suggestion, but now it appears that these repairs have not been sufficient and you are still having difficulty. We wish it were possible to get a better car for you, but we feel this would be most difficult at the present time. You indicate your plan to make a quick trip to the States in January with the possibility of securing a car and driving it back. We wonder how you would ever get a car to Alaska over snowbound roads during January. It looks impractical to us so we are holding the matter in abeyance for the present.

I had hoped to confer with Mr. Roberts on the possible source of funds for a car for you, but he is out of the office at the present time, so we can take no action on the matter at present

We note your plan to visit Miss Stauffer, possibly in February. We agree

to this plan, if you feel it is the time for you to go. You have spoken in your letter about a possible "permit from the office". Because we are all new here in the office, we are not informed about your necessity in this case. If we can help you we want to do it, but we shall need more information from you concerning it. If it is simply permission from us to go you have it. If it requires permission from some other source, we shall need more information.

We notice in a letter from Mr. Champlin that you will be at the Presbytery meeting in January, at Palmer. We trust you have a fine meeting, and that you will have a good visit with your former parishoners in that church.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ/mk

JAN 24 1944

College, Alaska
Jan .17, 1944.

Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Unit of Alaska Work,
Board of National Missions
Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
156 Fifth Ave.
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

Your letter of the sixth inst is at hand. There is much that I could say but I just cannot see how matters that pertain to the work we are doing would be cleared up by much writing. At this date I am awaiting some more information as to possible additional efforts that we may have to put forth. When and if that comes you will want and need to know much more about the task ahead than I can possibly give on paper.

I am not only in a strained position with the matter of transportation, I face the possible terminal of my work. I just returned from thumbing my way for better than 400 miles and while on the one hand I did not near care for my work accurately I was just behind one tragic accident and was in another that only for the grace of God was not a repetition of a similar accident last summer when conflagration was instantaneous, the driver never escaping. I want to pilot my own car, I feel I have a work to do. The people of Fairbanks and else where are more interested in how much money they can get from whiskey, and the war program can be last. Suttling of drivers, or befuddling the mind of individuals means nothing.

If in the providence of God I can find two or three weeks somewhere before the middle of march and I can get transportation I will wire you and come armed with a permit for a car. If we cannot find a car then some where adjustments must be made in the progrm so I can fit into the tremendous tasks that are before us as ministers today. The time should be before I go to Wales.

With reference to Wales, there are knotty problems there. I have a suggestion for remedy but that is not so easy done as said. But I fear complications to the work if we do not care for the problem in the very near future. I just wanted your say so to go, if and when I can get there.

The matter of snow-bounds roads is nihil. A few hours clears any hinderences away for any spot in the North. We are in a zone where that is necessary.

I would like to know if this Rev. Willaims was enabled to get to Norman Wells.

With reference to your communication regarding a Mr. Sievenpiper who would like to work with us in War Time Service work, I enquired from men who listened to him and they stated after hearing him once that the men found a good excuse not to go the second time. Now you can understand what that means. I could not answer him when he asked me so referred him to the office till I could learn who he was. -- But refusing him, which I certainly suggest will not close the matter. You can expect the Nazerines and others to try doing the same thing. That will mean confusion for all if so. The Mo. Synod, Lutheran - have already entered one Place. -Sincerely, Rev. B. J. Bright.

Yukon Ry
B J Bingle

Dr Jackman

RECEIVED
FEB 1944
BUILDING AID FUND

BOB LINDQUIST, Manager

Dr Keeler wrote to Mr Bingle
Bingle to write to Mr Jackman re

WESTWARD HOTEL
ANCHORAGE ALASKA

Jan 26 - 44

Dr. A. B. Keeler
Property Division
Board of National Missions
156 - 5th Ave.
New York - 10 - N.Y.

my dear Dr. Keeler:

Here at Presbytery and you should see the snow. Deep as the mud in that hole we fixed the car to get thru - & more coming down. We had a fine time at Palmer - Presbytery meeting. The Olsens are swell & folks like them very much. - She wears Conger Socks. - Snow on way to Seward about 10 times as deep as above or here (in spots) Train two days behind already, fear it will cancel out for the week. - Am due to go to Wales one week from tomorrow. Folks at Presbytery remember with happiness & Pleasure your visit.

What did you decide to do about that down payment for that Property where we live - $00.00? I have rec'd no papers from the Andersons - name I.M.C. Anderson - Farm Security Agt. Anchorage, Alaska.

Again what did you find out about films? - can you get some good Silent Pictures suitable for us? If there are good slides we could use them too, Particularly on the best Paintings.

Some camps are smaller now - Some will be smaller, than will come a pick-up. We still are in the rumor stage about Work West. I feel it is more than rumor but cant say. Things change, often and adversely.

Had some of Esquimo boys at house recently. Hope to get them again before long. - Presbytery Com. on Nat. Miss brot matter up wish to adopt some policy as guide as it is a Problem of Concern for our White Churches.

Give our - Bingle family - best wishes to Staff - Rev. B.J. Bingle

(Sent another map)

FEB 10 1944

College, Alaska
Feb 2 - 44.

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
Unit of Alaska
Board of National Missions
Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
156 Fifth Ave.
New York, N. Y.

I wrote Phila. 2/11/44

My dear Dr. Jackman:

Enclosed you will find my order for next two quarters. So far for January & February I have rec'd no Todays - My order reads 100 each month. If these have not been sent will you have them re-ordered? Also is included the order blank - filled - for special booklets.

If conditions & travel permit I will leave this week for Wales. I will send my report in early so I can get Expense money back to cover my return.

I believe I would be safe in saying that it might be well to keep in mind some one to take miss Stauffers place - at least for a while. The field dare not be left vacant. I met a man who told me how she was when there mid January. She has been ill. The Committee on Nat. Miss. will report when I return - This is unofficial. It may be too that she is o.k. & can continue.

Had a very fine Presbytery - best yet I believe.

Best of wishes to you in your work.

Sincerely,
Rev. B. J. Bingle.

FEB 10 1944

College, Alaska
Feb. 4, 1944.

Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Unit of Alaska Work
Board of National Missions
Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
156 Fifth Ave.
New York - 10- N. Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

Since I have written to you last, and since Dr. Roberts has written that he is looking up men for Alaska, I have been thinking that maybe I have given an impression that is as yet not backed by evidence of concrete happenings. Up in this section of the Territory there has been some thought that with new development we would need one more worker to cover the field in any adequate fashion whatsoever. But I have always put an "if" into that statement. We can never tell what is going to be the action even tho the subject itself is exceedingly hot. I have repeatedly endeavored to learn if that proposed new work was to happen and one day it is on the go, the next it is the reverse. Let me give this caution before I get away from regular mail service when I get going Westward finally-- do not make any final plans up on this end till you do hear from me. I really have given up hope that the work will be opened now. A few weeks ago it looked the opposite.-- But the subject is not all dead. The trouble lay back there in the so called investigating committies in Congress. It looks to me as if is Pendergast vs Standard Oil.

But I am again going to approach the subject to that stretch of road that lays between North and South Alaska. both Canada - Corr. of Bp. Keeler may They are our folks up there from the good old U.S.A. It is all temporary work, will not be permanent till after the war is over. No one man can possibly cover the hundreds of miles that Church of England man is supposed to cover according to the report from Toronto. It is not fair to our church people from the United States, who are there. Either we will cover it as a church or the independents and the Mo. Lutherns and the Nazerenes are going to move and take over. That will not be fair or adequate. So if that subject can be reopened we should seriously consider our obligations as a Protestant Christian Church. There is were an extra man can be used. That was the place that I asked for an extra person at the very first- the area East of Fairbanks.

So far I have had difficulty in getting away to Nome. It looks as if the situation will not clear for a number of days yet. It is the stoppages of travel like this that has made us give up any help in transportation, as was reported in Monday Morning, and rely on our own. We never would get anything accomplished if we did not. Shortly after the doctor was here the whole program as laid out went with the wind. We are in a war zone and anything can and does happen and change.

Will you convey may best wishes to Dr. Keeler, Dr. Roberts and the rest of the staff on war work.

Sincerely,

Rev. B.J. Bingle

February 11, 1944

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. B. J. Bingle
Box 1027
College, Alaska

Dear Bert:

You may not get this letter for sometime because if travel conditions have changed you may now be on your way to visit Miss Stauffer.

When you return from your visit we will like to have a full report from you about the conditions there. You indicated in your letter that Miss Stauffer has been sick which she has reported to us in her regular report. We trust that she is well by this time but the question of bringing her out for a period of time or transferring her has come to our attention. As a result of your visit you may have some suggestions or reflections to make on this question.

We are thoroughly convinced that you must have a car for your work. We are now searching the possibility of finding the funds to purchase it. I have asked Mr. Roberts of the War Service Unit if that Unit would share with ours the expense of a car. Mr. Roberts is away from the office and we are awaiting his decision in the matter.

There are several matters in relation to the car upon which we would like your reaction. Can you get a permit to purchase a car? Should it be a new one at a very high price or a good used one? What kind of a car should it be granting we have any choice in the matter? What is the nearest point to you where we can make arrangements for the purchase and delivery? Along with your permit for the car is it possible for you to get sufficient gas and a permit to drive it back over the Alcan Highway? How much can you get for your old car and how much would you have available to put into another one? When we have your answer to these and many other questions which you may know better than we, we will do our best to get some results for you.

If present plans develop, I shall go to Alaska at the end of March use as much time as possible to visit the fields and the Alaska Presbytery. At present the plan is for me to fly to Fairbanks, spend a couple of days there, go down to Palmer and then to Anchorage. If possible Kordova and

then to the inside passage. Most of the visiting would be in the churches of Alaska Presbytery before and after the meeting and then return to headquarters for the annual Board meeting, April 25 to 28.

Any suggestions which you might have on this schedule as it is planned would be helpful. Is this the right development of the schedule or should it be reversed going to Fairbanks last? Tell me something about weather conditions, transportation conditions, contacts with air lines, and any other information which may be helpful before I go.

I am looking forward to a visit with you to consider some of the matters in your area for the development of future Presbyterian work. Let us hear from you as soon as convenient on all these matters.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

MAR 8 1944

College, Alaska
Feb. 28, 1944.

Dr. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Unit of Alaska Work
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York, 10 N. Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

Your letter of Feb. 11th is at hand. Being so long since you wrote regarding things contained therein, is the reason I wired you last evening. Things are coming so fast up here in the work and with Spring just about to commence that it is the matter of time to get all accomplished.

Regarding Miss Stauffer, you will find my report enclosed and the recommendations. The policy I thought we should establish is a long range policy for the whole field. I suggested that after a certain age the missionary be withdrawn from the locality and given an easier task, but given a task, and someone younger put into the place. Miss Stauffer has to my judgment reached an age where she should have more pleasant or easier labors. She has done good work, but that is no reason for her to be pensioned in that particular place. Conditions and things move about her. At present the native has been made to compete with white man in so many respects. White men have moved in there and more will be along as the years come and go, Wales being on the last stop on intercontinent travel, or if they do not stop there are guided in their travel thru equiptment there. That to me is why the Chatholic church has an eye on the place. The condemnation of the missionary is only an excuse for that which they definitely intend to do. They have moved into other areas already. One thing that I have not been able to sell to folks in the East is that we here must get on the offensive, a united offensive. We have liquor, Red-light district operators, and everything hurtful on the one hand to combat and the constant fastening of the hold of the Catholic church on the other- politics, economics, school, and church. If we do not get on a united offensive we as individual churches are going to take a small second place. I do not know how it can be done, but it must be done. One dare not blame the Catholic Church, one needs to beat them to the draw. They will not cooperate, they will take over. Hence a younger person than the missionary in question should be seriously considered by another 12 months. Anyhow anyone would be unfit mentally to run a work like that if they do not get out occasionally, we now keep missionaries too long at those spots. -- More of this when you get here, it will all keep till then.

As to the car: I can get a permit to purchase a car.-- The work is too hard on used cars, expenses of upkeep is too great. A low priced car new is better. If it is second hand and it would not dare have but few miles on it. True a higher priced car will last longer than a low priced.-- I have a permit now to drive the full length of the Alcan Highway, have been driving on it for months.-I always have been able to get sufficient gas.--As to points of delivery to bring up other than driving I am not sure that I can get space on the boats now to get it up this Spring. Space now is a premium. The cost from Seattle alone will be more than 200 dollars. I can beat that by driving it.

but he has reconsidered.

When Dr. Keeler was up I thought I had the matter settled as to where I was to live. There is no other place. If I rent I constantly have to move and houses for our family are just not to be had. In town rent and purchase prices run 50% higher than here. It is not worth it, but no choice.

Too, I just do not think I or Rev. Crawford should live in Fairbanks where we are so close to the membership of the church there. Always someone will come and talk to us about church matters, and even pick on the pastor, when we are, or anyone else is, too close. It happened before when the first S.S. missionary was up here, even broke up one church nearly. That I do not want to repeat or want Rev. Crawford, or anyone else cause to repeat.

That comes back again to my car. If I live out here my family will need the old car. I cannot get too much for it anyway and they can get by. I already have a big repair bill on it and time I dig that money up it will take months. Living out here and retaining the old car will be very much cheaper than living in town or purchasing a home in town. We are 4½ miles from town.

Hence we come to a very importaint question:- is the work that I am doing, or Rev. Crawford doing,(he is in the same position, must have a place to move to by May first, the whole situation not being healthy) worth the expenditure? If it is then a policy and program should be laid out and proceeded by. If not then Rev. Carwford and myself should be either placed in other work, or we should try to get into one ourselves. The first year and one half on this assignment I had to live on the inheritance of my wife. That has put me into the place that I could not go up and pay cash for anything that I had to purchase, including a car. That is the sole reason why now I have had to write and wire you stating I could not pay any money on a new car. I paid cash for the present new car less than three years ago. I wore that car out on this assignment, I have not billed the Board for all the coasts. Today I am at the end of the expenditure.-- I should qualify my above statement and say that I agreed to come here for a certain salary but living costs jumped, war broke out and it soared, so that is why the salary was not enough and I had to have the supplement, and the only one was the inheritance. The conclusion is - if you can care for the car I will Purchase a Place to live. If you have an idea let me know.

I will give just a little more pain in this letter. It is not a matter of weeks, but of days, before the road at the other end will soften up and be impassable. The end of March should still be alright. After that the roads, and my program which I have mapped out, will have to hold me to the task definitely. -- So if I do not get things on the move soon we will perhaps have to forget it all. Too it is harder to get a car all the time and if we wait till Spring when others will demand the same I perhaps could not even find one.

I am communicating with Seattle and with Edmonton just now, or will by the end of the day relative to the purchase. I heard some may be there. I will let you know results.

My suggestion regarding your coming further is this:- have Dr. Keeler contact Mjr. Blaisdell of the Alaska Transport Command, Chaplain at Edmonton, I am sure he is the one that Dr. knows, seeing if you could not travel by ATC to Fairbanks. The best Airline is the Pan American, but you may have to take the same line as Dr. Keeler did from Vancouver. How would you like to meet Rev. Crawford and myself at Whitehorse and come up over the highway? You could see the work at the same time, then you could better judge what it is and what could be done. -- I think you should come up. It would help much for you to see the field. The weather has been bad for flying all year. Planes are grounded for days before they can move in some areas. That is my reason for saying you should come by Mar. 20th to get into Cordova. You should get there.-- If you cannot get priorities and cannot travel by air, let me know at once, we will get you out of Edmonton by car if by no other way to get you here. How would you like that?

Mjr. Blaisdell Hq - ATC. Station Edmonton Alberta

As to Wales again, I hope to be able to get back up there more. I can help hold the work this year. Thanks

Dr. Jackman

MAR 8 1944

REPORT ON TRIP TO WALES ALASKA, THORNTON MEMORIAL CHURCH. FEB. [illegible] 1944.
- Rev. B. J. Bingle S.S.

The trip in general was without incident. I was able, thru the request of Capt. Odom - Chaplain of Ladd Field, and the courtesy of the Alaska Wing, to obtain passage to Nome and return. The remaining part of the trip was by the way of Munz Air Service. The return trip with Mr. Munz was with a little difficulty. An unusual head wind and snow storm developed bringing visibility to zero before a port could be reached. We were forced to land on Salt Lake and endure a storm for 17½ hours. My usual emergency rations, secured this time from Miss Stauffer, our Missionary, came in mighty handy for the three of us. Truly the Lord did hold us up lest we dash the foot (of our skiis) against a stone(like icehammock).

At Wales I found Miss Stauffer in much better physical condition than I anticipated. She had been very ill, with most others of the village. This period of illness [illegible] Christmas till mid February. While Miss Stauffer was confined to her bed no less than four of the village passed away. The community health now is very much improved.

The Spiritual condition of the village is not yet what it could be but I do believe it to be an improvement over last year. I not only saw a goodly number of adults at worship but I saw many fine young men and women at those same services. The young men and women made up a good sized choir, taking special part in the services. One young man interpeted for me two evenings. At the time of our annual business meeting young men and women as well as older ones were elected to office. As a whole I feel that they have accepted their duties and obligations quite well. A number volunteered at the occasion of prayer. They all love to sing.

The Sunday School was well attended by all ages of the village. The attendance could be improved byt sickness and labor for the building project hindered the major portion from coming. The officers of the church teach the classes. Condidering the size of the village one need not feel discouraged with their efforts. The Young People's Christian Endeavor was likewise well attended and the response in the study and worship was good. I took pictures of the two age groups attending and if they turn out well will show what I am trying to say in words.

There is a building project going on at Wales right now which commands the attention of our church very definitely. Those that are there- whites, not so many- need the following up of the church in their task. It was with mixed emotion as I held worship one evening in a small dining hall which was completely covered with snow, both top and sides. The only approach to the same was thru a long tunnel. Here, under the massive mound of snow, men- [redacted] sang the hymns of the church, took part in prayer and listened carefully as I attempted to break unto them the bread of life. After the worship I showed slides I had taken of scenes in Alaska the past two years. The men many times spoke of the value and boost my visit had meant to them. [redacted] The spiritual and mental hardship is not small.

We need to visit these men under these or similar drifts of snow, be a companion and a spiritual uplift. It was my intention to visit at least one other such important place but, even thought we could see another country the day we took off, before we reached our destination we could not locate the position and were lucky enough to find the stakes that were to guide the dog teams in case of Artic blizzards. Such wind and storm struck us and in a short time were forced to land [redacted] beside the stakes on what happened to be a lake. There we were forced to remain the 17½ hours rather than chance crashing on some unnamed mountain side. From there on I could not return. Many days later we were held at one air port. -- This gives evidence of the difficulty of travel in this section of the North.

In addition to the regular church problems in this particular village- or any Artic village- are the problems of economics, social growth, and health. The encroachment of the white man has taken the native food from the front door making the native go vast distances to obtain the same. In some instances he gives up the old way of living and obtains what food he can from money earned as wages. As all purchased foods must come from far away Seattle and there is no assurance of boats each year, this method of gathering provisions has in no way solved his problems completely. Getting native food will grow still more difficult with the years. The gift of our church in reindeer was a god-send, but that has found many problems. Right now the herds are at a very low, the wolves have taken so many. Obtaining herders at the time of high wages by the white man is difficult. This not only makes food scarce but clothing and footwear as well.

Coupled with the economic problem is the problem of knowing what is the good that should be accepted from the white man and the evil that should be discarded.. That particularly confronts youth. Following this problem and effected by it, is the problem of health. Too poor food, too small houses, too little fuel, and too much of white man's bad habits directly contributes to poor health. Liquor is always a problem. Our whites, the merchants of the city, the members of the chambers of commerce, are content to deliberately sabotage a great race of people. Our present age will have to answer for its evils. We damn the efforts of the great Woodrow Wilson but our administration will have to answer before Almighty God for what it has done to not only whites who know not what to do but to the Alaska Indian and Esquimo as well. Food and fuel are therefore main problems along with the spiritual.

There is another problem that presents itself as a side issue in the church. The past adherence of churches to their own field of labor with no intent to proselite is about to be junked by both un(anti)denominationalists and the large and ever insidious Catholic church. In this area it is the latter that has repeatedly gone into Protestant communities and set up rival organization, creating dissention, ill will and at times even dividing communities. The treat to Wales is not to condemn administration on our part near so much as to the intent to go into everyfield. These statements are only covered excuses. This we need to keep in mind.-- The answer: first, cover our own fields better ourselves.

What can we do with our work at present? These sugesstion apply to Wales or other stations:
1. Intensify our labors in our villages. Make the church the center of our recreational life, the family fellowship, the cultural growth as a compliment to the school, and even assist the school where possible in the health program. The teachers are in most cases as consecrated as the missionary.
2. Speed up the work with the youth. As a whole, by community habits, they have not been sufficiently considered. Good men and women come from good boys and girls.
3. Place no elderly folk in mission station as missionaries whereever possible. The type of work in the mission station these days must be vigorous.
4. Where a man and a wife can be secured for respective mission stations put such there.
5. Take older folks from such hard mission stations and give them easier tasks. They have earned a right to happy years of labor till retirement at less strenuous labors.
6. Have the missionary follow the villager to his particular reindeer corral, or his fishing ground, or mine, or other place of work for the season.
7. Insist and instruct the native to take a great part in self support of the church.
8. Have yearly interdenominational conferences with other missionaries of other denominations in respective geographical areas.
9. Drop all phrases or words when speaking to the native such as Indian or Esquimo as it gives idea of race superiority and inferiority and thereby creates class consciousness.

A report I wish to give for Presbytery statistics is:
1st. I looked over the minutes of the church and gave approval in writing to the same as of Feb. 13th, 1944.

2nd. On Feb. 13th, 1944 I received into church membership of the Thornton Memorial Church, Wales Alaska, 21 young folks of the Junior and Intermediate ages that had been carefully instructed in a class held by Miss Stauffer for that purpose.

3rd. On Feb. 13th, 1944 I baptized 5 babies, (held in parkas on their mother's backs, which is an unusual experience).

4th On Feb. 12th, 1944 I held the annual meeting of the congregation at which time all officers of the church were elected. In most cases these were elected for a three year term as the offices had been filled three years previous. To try getting some for a longer or shorter time than others elected would only confuse the mind of the member. Two new deacons and two new trustees were elected. The remaining were re-elected.

5th. On Feb. 13th, 1944 all officers but one- a newly elected trustee were installed. This office left vacant temporarily was filled by appointment by myself, appointing the Elder Lewis to fill the vacancy till I or another return next year. He is senior Elder in the church and from the date of its reorganization till the present has been the leading trustee and general reliable worker in the church. If the newly elected trustee is enabled to attend church this coming year it is my purpose to have him installed at the next installation.

6th. On Feb. 13th, 1944 I, with the elders and Miss Stauffer, served communion to better than 100 folk at the hour of worship and communion.

Rev. B. J. Bingle.

1944

College, Alaska.
Feb. 28, 1944.

Dr. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Unit of Alaska Work
Board of National Missions
Presbyterian Chruch U.S.A.
156 fifth Ave. N.Y. 10 N.Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

Of recent date I learned from A. Polet, Nome Alaska and from Rev. Percy Ipalook, Gambell Alaska, that bills for the mission at Gambell have not been met by our New York office. As I understand from Mr. Polet the same holds true with the bills for Miss Martin at Savoonga and for Miss Stauffer at Wales. While Mr. Polet is not worried about the matter, yet he would like to get his accounts cleared up. Would you be pleased to look up the matter and if the bills for three missions, or any one mission have not been paid, that they be paid immediately? In each case the bills are O.K. as I understand it. I forwarded Miss Stauffers personally and looked over that which was sent to Rev. Ipalook.

I explained the reason to Mr. Polet for the delay, being the change in administrators and that you would care for it when it was drawn to your attention.

Sincerely,

Rev B. J. Engle

College, Alaska.
May 13/44.

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
Unit of Alaska Work
N.Y., N.Y.

Dear Sir:-

Mr. Bingle asked me to drop you a line saying that he left this morning for Big Delta and Canada down the highway, going as far as Whitehorse. There he hopes to find out if he can get a permit to go on to the States and drive back over the road with the car. He did not get your air mail letters written May 1 & 3 until the morning of the 11th. There was not time then to write about a permit for traveling below Whitehorse.

He has a permit for the pur-

chase of a car dated for the first of June allowing for any delay in traveling.

He cannot make Chicago for the Pre-Assembly Conference but will try to be there later.

He received your wire this morning just before he left town - He left with the Telephone line men. The road has been closed for over a week and his car was at Big Delta. He drove it part way home, and then had to let some men drive it back while he came in with men on this side of the bad place in the road.

As to the details concerning the purchase of this property - It is in the hands of Maurice Johnson one of the trustees of the Presbyterian Church in Fairbanks who is a lawyer. You will no doubt be hearing from him soon.

Sincerely
Mrs. B. F. Bingle

June 30, 1944

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Bert J. Bingle
College, Alaska

Dear Bert:

Thank you for your postcard which indicated your progress on the journey on the return to Alaska. We trust that by this time you have arrived and are in the midst of your service again with a car that will be much more dependable in your work.

I was at the meeting of the synod of Iowa two weeks ago and met a minister by the name of Williams who asked about you and your work. He wanted to be remembered to you in a personal way saying he had been with you in the seminary.

During the month of August Dr. Benjamin F. Judd of Cincinnati, the father of Don Judd at Wrangell, will be in Alaska trying to see as much of our work as possible. August is not the best month for this purpose but he is taking his vacation time for it. He would like to see something of our work in the interior and I suggested to him that if you were home during that time he might make arrangements with you to meet him at Whitehorse and drive over the Highway, even having him preach in some of the construction camps where you might hold services. I have warned him that if he hopes for this contact he will have to wire ten days in advance and make connections and be sure that the Railroad is running up to Whitehorse before he contemplates the arrangement. He wanted me to make out an itinerary for him but I presented to him the difficulties in connection with this and suggested that he seek the assistance of his son when he arrived at Wrangell. We pointed out to him the time of the Young People's Conference at King's Lake and suggested that he might try to visit it and bring a few messages in connection with the conference or in the fellowship of the ministers who are present. You may hear from him later. Anything you can do for him will be greatly appreciated, but we do not want this to interfere too much with your own vacation program.

JUL 19 1944

College, Alaska
July 4, 1944.

Dear Friends:

For most of you it has been a long time since I dropped a line. It happened this way-- I went"outside". The word I should be changed to "we" as James went along.-- Purpose: to get a better car. My old Plymouth did very well but I had crossed too many glaciers, towed it thru too many rivers or flood streams, picked it out of too many mud holes, and incidently drove it too far,- and I should have perhaps said: too fast- for it to be what it used to be. Anyway I have another one now that I drove all the way back from Chicago- 4000 plus miles- to Fairbanks. Edmonton is just about one-half way. Thru the kindness of some very good Army officers the trip was made possible. The highway of course is restricted but as I cover the camps for worship that helped build the road, telephone live and gas line, and have to have my car registered for that purpose it was one additional step to get to drive the whole of the road instead of just the first half as heretofore.-- I put the last that way so others will not get ideas!

I want to say a word about that Highway.-- I should have spelled that word highway in full capital letters,- it is a very good road. I know much has been said against it, even members of congress blacken the road to a fierce degree. They say it is no good cannot be used in the summer, will never keep in the bridges etc, and the 130 million has been thrown away. Well, all I can say is that I drove the full length of it. The lower half is a good 50 mile an hour road, the upper around 40. The bridges are the very best and latest with slight exceptions where work was not completed. I saw one frost boil in the midst of the much maligned muskeg, it was no bigger than a small sized dishpan. The road could be better at this date but it is not as good as it could be because the appropiation for the road was so curtailed that simple maintainance and watchfulness for well flooded streams whcih come in any country cannot be had to its small but necessary extent. The Richardson Highway in the region of Valdez is out now, has been for two weeks and no coubt will be for weeks more. Hence there are problems in road building

General Assembly geve me a good boost forward-- in spirits. While I was not the delegate I did get to a few meetings. Three problems presented themselves while I was there:- War, race, and the ever present Capital-labor problem. I was gratified at the forward movement action of our church. I think the committee that work on the latter problem, time extending over many weeks, has given the church something very concrete and tangible to work with. If we just follow thru a new day will dawn for the church and society in relation to labor. I heard Dr. Pugh who recently returned from the world tour, visiting the Chaplains. That was in itsself theworth of the trip. He surely brought back a challenge to the church as it relates to men in uniform.

Just a personal word- as this letter goes to many parts of the country,- and perhaps to some out at sea, We in the Bingle family have not forgotten you. We give you our very best wishes. Keep up that daily program which makes for lovliness of character, and that means just one thing- prayer and Bible study. Your service will be more. -- Sincerely, Rev.- Mrs. (family) Bingle.

Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Alaska Work & S.S. Missions
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York-10- N.Y.

JUL 13 1944

My dear Dr. Jackman:

College, Alaska
July 4, 1944.

Dear Friends:

Sorry I could not sit down & write a good letter to you. I have been trying to catch up with my work. Some of that time Some changes are on but there is much to do. When get more knowledge I will write. The car is O.K

For most of you it has been a long time since I dropped a line. It happened this way-- I went "outside". The word I should be changed to "we" as James went along.-- Purpose: to get a better car. My old Plymouth did very well but I had crossed too many glaciers, towed it thru too many rivers or flood streams, picked it out of too many mud holes, and incidently drove it too far,- and I should have perhaps said! too fast- for it to be what it used to be. Anyway I have another one now that I drove all the way back from Chicago- 4000 plus miles- to Fairbanks. Edmonton is just about one-half way. Thru the kindness of some very good Army officers the trip was made possible. The highway of course is restricted but as I cover the camps for worship that helped build the road, telephone live and gas line, and have to have my car registered for that purpose it was one additional step to get to drive the whole of the road instead of just the first half as heretofore.-- I put the last that way so others will not get ideas!

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I want to thank you so much for your helpfulness. Give each & all our best regards—

Sincerely,
Rev. B J Bingle.

(Con. Glen Highway mystery mail)

JUL 1944

College, Alaska
July 7 - 44

Dr. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Alaska Work & S.S. Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York - 10 - N.Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

When you were here & we had Presbytery meeting I was authorized to contact the Bd of Christian Education about funds for the Young People's Conference. As you know it has been coming from your office. I do not recall all the procedure I must go through and honestly I do not find time to see one (who would know while I am in town. I am trying to catch up for being gone.)

Would you care for the matter from your office? The Amount has been $100.00. If Contact can be made to the Board of Christian Education from your Office you will know what should be said and done. Anyway I need 100.00 for the Young Peoples Conference at Kinjo Lake. It should be coming at the earliest convenience, from Somewhere.

I saw Harry (Rev. C.) the other day a few minutes. He states Percy is off the island - will be back in 4 or 6 wks - or wants to return then. While that is the Problem yet I know that People personally over there, know the Laws of the S.D.A.

and what they are attempting in their program to the negation of ours and I am concerned. Somewhere I believe a sacrifice will have to be made. I believe he would work at Wales, the Wales folk want him. Some where, somehow a shift will be necessary or it will take a year with a loss of membership to care for matters. Transportation will soon be closed - food must be in prior to that or a missionary is there or not so we can get one there. If there is anything that I can do let me know.

Soon there is to be a mission conference at Coffee Center by the Independents and seemingly headed by the Church of God (Anderson, Ind.) minister here at Palmer. I heard his announcement over the radio. -- So the parish is represented by the Small & Cox School. Chaplain Odom called me in the other day and we worked out a program more to his liking than ever - for the Highway. He told me he was "bombarded" by all kinds of Church folks who want to "hit" the camps and have services. They want government transportation

and all that goes with it. They apparently demand it because, I presume, I am there - or the Presbyterians so his chaplain is covering most large places and I am a few plus the small ones. That will lessen my reports over East year but still is necessary & worth while. I left him with the that that when his chaplain Service diminished that I wanted the opportunity to pick up the work - & it with him.

Let us not forget the war is not over just outside our door. Let us also not forget we are liable to see plenty up here before over - (the Yanks?) In that case we need our fields manned.

Wish picture included

Enclosed you will find a picture of a man who has prepared himself to do missionary work in our middle section of Alaska. I told you about him as the mail carrier on the "Canol" road - & the oil field. He is well liked. His wife is a nurse. He is handy, sensible. I wish he were a presbyter, as a layman he could do good work I believe among the Eskimos. He is out of Fairbanks & White Horse right now. - I send the picture to show how Chinese or Independent groups are flocking in. Sincerely, Rev. B. H. Bright.

JUL 26 1944

College. Alaska July 21-44

Reports - War Time Service - Yukon Presbytery:

Summer always has the Lovely & Stimulating factor in the year's work - Camping. For myself it is a variety of Camps. 1937 a group of Laymen and myself of United Protestant Church in Palmer initiated an adventure in Camping. We secured the land by a beautiful lake surrounded by the high Mt. range that circumscribes the Matanuska Valley. Buildings were constructed & Equipt. Each year it Provides a place where 4-H. groups - Home Makers organizations, Boy & Girls Scouts and respective Churches of every denomination can come for encampment. It is where we had our first Young People Conference for the Protestant Churches North of the Gulf of Alaska. It is where we have met each year since & will meet again during this coming month. As I am Chairman of the Board of directors of this Camp - and as I have the responsibility of Putting on our Alaska Youth Conference this last month I was compelled to spend time getting property ready. So many hundreds use the Camp that constant care &

watchfulness is necessary. When I left the Camp one week ago 110 youngsters of the 4-H. were present for a regional meeting. On the 12th of August we hope to have 95 young folks that represent communities from down on Kenai Peninsula - maybe the Aleutians - and Cordova on the South to the Churches on the North - even including Barrow - the boys in Service down in this area. Other Enlisted men from the States will be there. So we feel that little effort years ago is very worth While today.

Next Week We hope to have a Smaller Conference for Church Young People - at Harding Lake - It will bring folk in off the "Alcan". Off the Alaska R.R. - and from Fairbanks. They will be civilians and enlisted personal.

This above is in conjunction to the regular duties of Service Field -

— Rev. B. J. Bingle.

July 24, 1944

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Bert J. Bingle
Box 1027
College, Alaska

Dear Bert:

We have had a conference with the War Time Service Unit on our arrangements with you for your field of service. We ought to inform you of the results of this conference so that you may proceed accordingly in your reports.

We have concluded that the former method of reporting this division of your support has been confusing to you and our Treasury Department has had a struggle each month in getting things straightened out in the right way. We have agreed that beginning July first your salary would be $2,400 with the use of the house (which we have not yet been able to clear with Mr. Anderson), and you would have a blanket grant of $1200 a year with expenses which would include travel and printed material. We understand the grant of $600 a year from Camp and Church Activity is to continue as usual from them. Your field receipts will be charged against your expenses each month as usual and you will retain them there charging us the difference between your actual expenses and the field receipts.

Your support is to be divided between War Time Service Unit and Sunday School Missions. War Time Service will take two-thirds of it and we will take one-third. Credit for your field receipts will be given upon the same basis. In your reports you will charge all your salary and all of your expenses on the Sunday School Missions' report form; also taking credit for your field receipts on the same form. You will continue to make out your report form to War Time Service and sign it in blank. We shall pay the full amount of your salary and expense out of Sunday School Missions funds and then we will bill War Time Service quarterly for two-thirds of the total cost of your salary and expenses. We think this will be simpler for you and for us here at the office.

We received your letter in regard to Percy on St. Lawrence Island. It is unfortunate that Percy has had to leave there on account of his children. I gave him permission to take his family to the mainland to get his wife and children to her home in Kotzebue. My understanding is that he will return to his field and stand by during the emergency until we can get someone to replace him. If he will stay another year we shall do everything possible to get him reestablished with his family. He has ordered food and personal items for his family for next year so we feel sure that he intends to be faithful to his post.

With nearly 800 of our ministers in the chaplaincy and 2500 vacant Churches in the States, I am having a most difficult time to get minister to go to Alaska. We think we may have made some progress in one or two points in southeastern Alaska. We are still working on the possibility of getting someone for all our stations. We live in hope.

We are enclosing the check for $100 for the Young People's Conference at King's Lake. We shall ask the Treasury to make this out to you so that you can use the funds when you need them.

We are glad to know that you are holding fast to your work on the territory. We need to do everything possible these days to do a good work so that our competition from sects will not overcome us.

Congratulations on your good letter to the friends. You certainly are a great booster for the Highway. My experience on it would not allow me to boost as much as you did.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK
Enc. $100 check

JUL 31 1944

College, Alaska
July 26 - 44

Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Alaska Work & S.S. Missions
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York - N.Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

Enclosed you will find copy of Daily Paper - You will find a good bear story in the back - You will also find on the first page something that in the future may effect our work up here.

As stated to you in White Horse & repeated in Chicago that I figured we should have two men on the field up here - just in case. I do not know what the "score" is or what it will be but I think it might effect our Alaska territory. We need to advance and we need to do that planning now. All may come to be but little but from all I can ascertain it may be more than a little.

If opportunity arrives and we are not able to take advantage of it others will be on the move & we can never take a place where I feel in service we can do as good - or better work than others, particularly some

I have not yet learned when Dr. Judd will arrive. It will be this week I think via boat and air. I hope to return him via Whitehorse. I could not meet him there. Too much moisture and too much chance for a delay & not able to handle one or two of the conferences I have on schedule. Also at that time he wired me a trip was "out"

Presbytery will meet next month - We will discuss some policies then. All the above is for information only. If in the nature of Providential guidance I can take a personal look and report I shall be happy to do so - but I am tied up till last of august by the looks of things.

Greetings to all in the office. Tell G.B. the bear story. Respectfully, R. D. Bingle.

JUL 31 1944

College. Alaska
July 27 - 44.

Dr. Jackman - Note to follow yesterday's thots:
(This is off the records) do you remember where I met you by Plane and the whole set up there. That made the work we are doing all over a necessity? That may happen again but if the direction of Fred and Nan. If we should have to increase our force - and if it comes we should or perhaps loose good strides ahead. — I am not so sure we should not use one that is already here in Alaska rather than bring a person up for that. The places where present workers in Alaska are can more easily be filled. I am not in favor of Rev. Crawford returning as I wanted him to remain and he could not see the possible challenge ahead. He did not need to go out as he had been out just 9 months before. And if his health could not stand the strain before he certainly could not stand this one as the assignment will of necessity be tough.

But I think we should get out thots in the direction of more work - The above could be all wrong too! Rev. B. J. Bingle.

C
O
P
Y

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
WASHINGTON
Zone 25

August 8, 1944

Dear Dr. Barnes:

Mr. Gates of our Recreation Division advises me that the Commanding General at Edmonton has the authority to issue an order which will make it possible for Chaplain Bingle to use Army gasoline in his work along the Alaskan Highway.

Last week he talked with Colonel Parker of the War Department regarding the possibility of using recreation equipment and materials for the civilian workers in Alaska who have supplanted military personnel. Although there is an Army ruling that recreation equipment purchased for the use of the military shall be used only for the military, Colonel Parker has made an exception in this case and has written to the Commanding General that it is within his authority to use any of his materials and supplies to serve the civilian workers.

It seems reasonable that the Commanding General should be able to use the same discretionary authority in connection with the use of Army gasoline by civilian chaplains.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Mark A. McCloskey,
Director,
Community War Services

Rev. Roswell P. Barnes,
The Federal Council of the
Churches of Christ in America,
297 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y.

SEP 7 1944

College, Alaska.
Sept. 1, 1944.

Dr. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Alaska Work and S.S. Missions
Board of National Missions
156 fifth Ave.
New York, -10- N.Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

The monthly reports are at hand, rec'd just before leaving for the Matanuska Valley for the Young People's Conference. This is the first opportunity I have had in making out the report. Your letter of explanation was also received, stating the budget set-up for the year. Dr. Jackman, I do not believe the allowance you gave me for the labor is enough. As I stated to you in Chicago, the expenses this year will be more, the offerings less. If you had not checked against me the offerings it could be done. The War Time service may not have the publicity to it as when the highway and other things were being constructed, but folks are out there and they must be cared for-- and by us- or we loose out place in the caring for them. Churches of every nature are up here bombarding the war department to get on that highway. The head Chaplain at Edmonton in telephome conversation with the local chaplain told him to get hold of me and outline the work. If I could handle it then no one else was to get on the road. Already I have been handicapt by Rev. Crawford leaving, now if I have to cut expenses by making one trip per month instead of two-- over that long area-- thereby keeping the schedule they lay out, I fear I will loose the opportunity to have the work exclusively. I need to get down the railroad more than I do but so far no go, except once. The reason also why I want to be down the road twice each month is that someday there will permanent work there, I am sure. We should hold that work at all costs. --Expense allowance dare not be cut down.

Last month we had the worst floods since 1932. I was on the highway then and I can give comparisons. This was terrible. Hundreds of thousands of dollars in construction went out like matches in the wind. It was not normal that it should happen but excessive rains cut loose the penned up lakes in the glaciers and then things did happen. 1931 I saw a similar happening up in this country. Conditions were repaired but out it went this time too. Well I had to get my car down to Palmer to care for the young people's conference coming up. That cost me money besides the Board to get that car down there. How that Plymouth kept going in water at times no less than 2 ft. deep on the road was a marvel. Dr. Judd liked to have busted a few buttons and I do not blame him. It was tough! I was pulled across one creek that made water was above the fenders, even covering the intake to the gas tank.-- When I arrived at Anchorage there was no question about it, I had to put new springs under the car all the way around. As I carried an extra just in case this months bill includes only cost for three springs. Rocks are bad on the road. I bought a new tire in Ill. before leaving, it cost 16.00. Already that tire has cost me $22.50 for vulcanizing- being just 4 ply. So you see my headaches.

For some years I have had on my heart a certain section of the country where never church work has been carried on. It is with a certain Indian tribe. Now I have opened that work, and I have others I conversed about. This new work will have to have careful nurturing. There is not even a school in those localities. Those Indians are nice Indians, but the liquor interests are getting in their licks. That will make much more milage.

There is another matter coming up which you will hear about thru the chairman of National Missions. It regards that work North from here that I spoke to you about in Chicago, relating to Fred. That may take military connections to get there to care for that work as I cared for this work but we should be looking into its possibility as stated previously. That is being done but advancements are in store for us up here, we cannot think of retreating. I know the war in Europe keeps our minds there and we feel that it is about over. But up here we are in another war. That careful attention may need to go for years from now.---- The Catholic church is sending its most highly obtained publicity man to Fred's place. Of course he is working as a government advisor, but you can call it what you choose. It is Father Benard Hubbard-- the Glacier Priest. One may not agree with him but he is scheduled to go North next week if he has not already gone. It is the same old game, they are there first.- How? I do not mean to condemn them but it is just as I have been saying, we need to as a church have our program laid out for action just as they when we all know it is going to happen. As at Norman Wells we wait too long. -- I state the above as I think you may get a concrete suggestion to help us on that end-- if we can see where we can fit in. Again I say this as it is War Time Service work and that is under my program. That may cost more.

For the past three years I have used and abused my projector. It is now gone practically to pieces. I need one very badly, just must have it to carry the work the way I want to carry it. Would you see Dr. Thorne for me and have him locate and send to me one S.V.E. projector, one that will show both slides and film strip? It should have all the connections to show the pictures rightly, and it should be in a good container. I think that should come from War Time Service funds also. I just have no money to obtain anything. I am worse off now than I have been since on this job, for some reason. When I think I can get ahead, buy a bond, then something comes and I do not seem able to get even one. I am ashamed of it, but I cannot find how I can help it.

I happened to meet the lady teacher from Gambel the other day. She was at the hospital in Palmer. I came back and reported to Harry. It involved Percy's food. There was much a question in mind of his returning. A letter from Miss Martin suggests the same thought. Ann stated about the house not being so tidy, and she had not the time to go over and clean it up. The teacher stated the house was damp and needed fire in it occasionally to keep the piano from going bad. She took the initiative and had the elders go over and put heat into the place once each week. That I thought was mighty nice of her. She is the 7 day lady, you know. She and her husband want Percy back... so went the conversation.

Below is the accounting for the $100.00 you sent for the Youngpeople8s Conference in the Matanuska Valley for Aug. 1944.:

$100.00 received from the Board of National Missions spent in camp rental for us of King's Lake Recreational Camp grounds Aug. 12th to 21st 1944. The total bill was $132.75. The one hundred dollars was applied to the account. The methodist church gave an amount to cover practically all the remaining portion of the bill. We had 4 churches represented and they had one.

Sincerely,

B. J. Knight

P.S. Have you rec'd the deed for our house lot?

COPY

THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA

SEP 8 1944

297 Fourth Avenue,
New York 10, N.Y.

Mr. Mark A. McCloskey,
Joint Army and Navy Committee on Welfare
and Recreation
Federal Security Agency
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. McCloskey:

The Home Missions Council of North America which represents the interests of the churches in service along the Alaskan Highway has assigned responsibility to the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. That Board has had two civilian chaplains working along the Highway but has recently withdrawn one and continues the service of the Rev. E.J.Bingle of College, Alaska.

Mr. Bingle's territory covers the Highway from Fairbanks to the border but he has been asked by construction companies and army officers to continue along the Highway to Whitehorse; this makes a distance of 640 miles.

Some of the construction companies are closing and Mr. Bingle reports that the Army personnel is being so reduced that regular Army chaplain service is correspondingly curtailed. He has been asked by Army officers to minister to men in the Army as well as to civilians in the construction camps.

Mr. Bingle has been having difficulty in getting gasoline and necessary service for his car along the Highway. There are no public gasoline stations so he has difficulty in traveling over so long a distance.

Would it be possible for you to make clearance for us so that we can obtain some kind of letter or credentials from the War Department which would authorize the Army to grant him necessary gas and service to his car for the performance of his ministry to the Army personnel and to the construction posts?

I can tell you, for your own information and not to be relayed to the Army, that the Army officers have on several occasions made it possible for him to obtain the gasoline he needed. They are eager to have it made available to him but they are acting without authorization in allowing gasoline to a cividian. What is needed is something which would serve as authorization in case an inspector checks their gasoline allocations and discovers something which has not been authorized.

It seems to me that the Joint Army and Navy Committee is the appropriate office to make the approach to the War Department. Can you please do this or advise me as to the next steps?

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Roswell P. Barnes

September 11, 1944

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Bert J. Bingle
Box 1027
College, Alaska

Dear Bert:

Thank you for your long letter of September first about your problems and successes. We are glad to know that you had such a fine Young People's Conference and that you have had a local conference for your people.

We have estimated your expense allowance of the year on the basis of what you have used during the past year. Your expenses will be supplemented by Field Receipts which you receive and credited against your monthly expenses. We want you to understand that we are not trying to curtail the extent of your ministry or the prominence of it. If our estimate of the expense account is not sufficient rest assured that we will take some action to get whatever funds are necessary to carry on your ministry.

We realize the vast amount of work which needs to be done in your territory but we are still unable to get additional help to do what ought to be done. There is some evidence that we may have more help available next summer but our arrangements are not completed yet for further help now. We shall keep this in mind and try to do something about it as early as possible.

We noticed the large amount of expense on your car and wondered about it, but your letter gives some reason for it. It is difficult to carry on your work and keep up a car in the territory which you cover and we shall ask that you keep it down as low as possible.

We are glad to have the news of your entrance into another Indian village to carry the Gospel. There are many such villages if we just had the people who would be as energetic and active about this as you are.

You may not have received the information that Fred Klerekoper has resigned from Barrow, but we have asked him to stay another year. Meanwhile, I hope we may further study his situation and be able to find a good replacement

with some additional help when Fred comes out.

We shall take up the matter of a S.V.E. projector for you and see what we can secure through Dr. Thorne. Can you include this as a matter on your present expense account, or would it have to be an addition to your present account?

We have not heard from Percy recently. We do not know where he is except that it is reported that he went to Kotzebue to settle the affairs of his wife's father who died recently. We are trying to make provision for a white couple at Gambell and have Percy go to Wales but these developments have not matured as yet.

We have received no word yet about the deed to your house. We must check with our Property Office and see what is developing in that direction. We hope this matter will be settled soon.

We are enclosing copies of correspondence which have been received from Washington in regard to proper authority for you to secure gas along the Highway. We trust that these will be sufficient for your needs.

Best regard to you in your work, and your family.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:VE
Enc. Copies of letters
To Mark A. McCloskey from Dr. Barnes - dated 9/6/44
to Dr. Barnes from Mr. McCloskey - dated 8/8/44

OCT 27 1944

College, Alaska
Oct. 11, 1944.

Hello Everyone:-- Weeks of silence has been my lot due to work. Our annual young people's Church Conference was had at King's Lake in the Matanuska Valley this year as here-to-fore, but larger than ever. A great number of highschool young folks were present for the nine days, also a goodly number of Junior High students. It was a matter of memtal gymnastics to keep both groups going at one time. The size of the groups and the quanity and quality of the facilities always help one in his spiritual or mental approach to the student. In other words whan the camp is big and crowded it takes more praying to keep things going their very best. The closing ~~servic~~ service indicated that were were about up to par, if not there. But next year there must be more building done. At the closing service, candle light instead of fagot this year, young folks in quanity came forward to dedicate their lives to Christ. On the last Sunday both Anchorage and Palmer turned out in quanity. This added much to the whole program.

Since the August days of camp I have been down the Alcan a number of times, holding worship at respective places. Just yesterday I returned again, this time making a short trip into Canada. Mrs. Rolland Armstrong, wife of our pastor at Anchorage, and Miss Betty Braun, our Director of Christian Education of Anchorage, were along. They contributed so much to the occasion and our visits. Miss Braun gave a fine spiritual talk at one camp.--- If such as she could visit some of our camps instead of some of the shows I have seen there I believe the boys would like it better and I am convinced it would do far more good. The folks in camps clone to our boarder have not had worship since they came to work in their respective locations some months ago. That is not right. I hope to be able to make a short trip in repetition just before Christmas.

At a few spots where Indian families live I have attempted to hold services. The response has been good, but one keeps asking,"just how far am in getting". I was dressed warm and had a cold, while some of those little youngsters were running around dressed all up in a little shirt, bare feet on the ice or snow. -- They did not have a cold. Well,the moral of this story may not be as we think. We older folks, I do not believe, should try that.--- The work on the rail belt is now better than it was, I surely neglected it.

The family is all well. - I get home to see them occasionally. When home the last time we together put an addition on the house, a room 14 x 24 ft. While it is still a shell, no inside celotex, it is large enough now that we did not have to go outside to change our minds.. That is the way I used to think of our house. We surely enjoyed doing the building, sorts got the old spirit back of the Matanuska Valley days.

I appreciate your return letters. I see the life of a soldier, sailor, or marine,-or civilian construction worker has not lessened but strengthened your spiritual self. Keep up the good work.- May the great God above be ever with you, keeping and guiding you. Mrs. Bingle, Vella and James send their best wishes.

Sincerely,

Rev. B. J. Bingle.

OCT 27 1944

College Alaska
Oct 20-44

Dr. Earl Jackman
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth ave.
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

My last trip down the highway I took Mrs. Armstrong and Betty Braun along. We had a lovely time. The folks & boys of the telephone stations enjoyed them very much. I wish I could have taken them nearer Christmas time.

I put in my order for 800 calendars in my report. I will submit names of persons down the highway you may write to concerning our work as asked for in your report.

I went down to help Rolland with his chapel, also for his rally program. I am to go back and help him some more. That is a right move. We should have had it prior. We first took a survey for it in 1940. - Rolland is surely pushing ahead.

At our church conference for Young People ~~of~~ South West Alaska held in the Matanuska Valley – (Kings Lake) in August a motion was passed to ask our Kings Lake Comp Board – I am chairman of it – to provide more Buildings for next years assembly. I made a trip to Anchorage recently held a directors meeting – tried to raise money. I may be able to get a 1000 dollars but that will not be enough. Since we use the place as our assembly grounds and since any other set-up would costs us many times more do you think that perhaps before Spring we might get a Gift from the Board of Christian Education for Buildings for our assembly work? If you think so you might approach the Bd. about it. The property – 5 acres – is owned by the folks of the Palmer community and Anchorage who are church people and interested in a place for Scouts, Y.A. & Church groups to meet. Rev. Allen & self are members of Bd. of directors

Just returned from down the R. R. and must leave immediately for Johnson River. I will be gone almost 3 weeks.

Your experience on expense on this work is my experience on living. The cost is getting very high. Income tax has taken quite a little. Hope I can still keep going.

I appreciate your bulletins. Enclosed find a recent general letter.

Sincerely,

Rev. B. J. Bingle.

DEC 4 1944

College, Alaska
Nov. 28, 1944

Dr. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Alaska Work and S.S. Missions
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York- 10- N.Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

When I sent my report in I stated I would soon have a letter to follow. Up to this moment I had not the time to write the letter. It has been quite cold here and as I have no garage facilities I have had to spend quite a little time with the car to see that it keeps running and functioning properly. It has made me get up in the night and run the car, not letting it idle over four or five hours at the most. -- Such endeavors in the middle of the night from a warm bed to the cold outside is conducive to goosepimples. Also this year we have no help on the highway like we did last year and believe me my car must function 102 % perfect before one dare start out.

At times the high cost has discouraged me, rubber conditions alone at times tests one's sanity. But just as sure as I get to feeling all down in the dumps about the whole afair some one comes along and knocks it right out of me. The other night at Northway a man about to take a plane for the big "outside" never to return took the trouble to hunt me up and tell me how much my coming down to his camp had meant to him in his many months there away from his home and his church. That really was compensation enough to try some more beating down costs and keeping on the road. Then another young lady just before leaving for her home to be gone some little time- you met her at Big Delta- came to me before leaving and said these words, "You sure kept me on the Beam". Well maybe I did, there were all kinds of calls for her to go off the beam and a plenty was trying to get her there.-- So maybe I cannot report so many converts but can say with gratitude, "I am just keeping them on the Beam".

In one of your last letters you spoke about the labors being too much for one person. That was so some months back but right now I would not say that. Until the army gets its program so it will be constant and I can know if I will be allowed in those respective military areas I would not think of any needing assistance. Things are better today than they were a few months ago, but last late summer due to so many coming up here that were not here before, demanding admission to the highway, doing the same work we were getting publicity for, we were cut down to only what the army could not do. Lucky I had been there before the Army or we would not have had that.-- At present it is better. The C.A.A. set up so close to the air ports, maintained by civiliams, has helped me by working some of the units where the chaplain certainly has no time to touch. I had a fine meeting with the C.A.A. folks at Big Delta the other night. The first. I will be there shortly again.---- You can see why I have not always done my part on the publicity end of the Board's work. I fear it will only bring more competitors up here. They want the glamor.

Did you receive the deed? I hope the check comes thru as I am holding the money bag right now. It was sent to you some time ago. The delay has cost us much in interest I fear.

Have you heard about the slide projector? I surely needed it for Christmas.-- Did I tell you that you should insure this building for at least $4000.00 when you submit the check?

Do you recall if I put in an accounting for the $100.00 check sent to me for the Young People's Conference. If I did not, let me know and I will send to you a special slip on the matter. I am sure I put it in however, speaking at the same time about our plans for enlargement of buildings. We must have more adequate building and housing for next year or we will not be able to do even as good as we have here-to-fore.

Right now the War Dept. has a man appointed that sells surplus war materials. Thru Col. Albrecht, C.O. of the Hospital at Fort Richardson, our former Dr. in the Matanuska Valley and an Elder in our Church there, and thru the Health nurse of this section of Alaska another good friend of the church, I am attempting to get some building from the army for the camp.-- I hope I can succeed. If so our problem of building will be lessened. It may be that I will have to spend some little time next spring down in that vacinity to see that we get those buildings and get them up. While our camp ground is used by Scouts, Home Makers, and 4 H folks as well as by the church, we of the church use the camp extensively and we need to enlarge its usefulness and insure its permanence.

I spoke with Rev. Champlin recently about a question I asked of the head of the Alaska Native Territorial Guard, if he would be willing to make a combination of an armory and a church at Savoonga, he furnishing the building and we help put it up. This was just to be a temporary arrangement, till we could get a church building up. It was O.K. with him, but never heard from him again. He has a good guard unit there. This subject I know belongs to the Chairman of National Missions of the Presbytery and I have no right to speak about it except thru Anna Martin and Rev. Champlin. But I assume Harry will have by this time repeated my words to you about the matter and I thought you should know that army quansits and other buildings may be available at some short future date in case you are interested. I too need to report to you what I said to the major. I am Chaplain of the Native Guard, at large-, and I thought since I was in conference with the Major I better sound him out on a matter that I feel might be a port in a storm for us, just in case a teacher would come along over there that would not want us to use the school and the war held out and we could not build for some time.

The Episcopal minister in the TannaCross area has gone out and let that church vacant till next June. Already there were eyes on the field by the Independents and I felt if they ever got in there it would be mighty hard on our work on the road in that area. So I volunteered to have church for the Indians village folk when I am in TannaCross every two weeks. I have had two good services already, 45 out the last time. My little group of Indians at Northway does not miss a service anytime I am there too. The Tetlin Indians asked me to come over and have church for them sometime. So next Mon. I will go by dog team 12 miles and have worship and instruction for those people, returning next day. Someone told me the last trip out that the Episcopal folk may want to give up that work. I scarcely believe it but if so we should be on the bidding end. Such could strengthen our whole new program. When I get to see the Bishop I will ask him.

Christmas greetings to each and all of you at headquarters.

Sincerely,

Rev. B.J. Bingle

P.S. I am sending these slides directly to you - have duplicates made immediately and return the same to me - I am short of each to do it myself. They are the ones we selected together. BJB

To Dr. Jackman

This I Really mean

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Well, if we are not another year older already! It seems only yesterday we had our candle light Christmas services in our home or in our camp, and a week later ushered in the New Year. For many of us this Christmas we will again be absent from home and loved ones. The day will be lonely-- I have been "there" myself. For others of us we will be at the family fireside, but no doubt there will be at least one vacant chair. This very much points out the message which the angels brought, "peace on Earth and Good Will to men" costs!- But still there is much to be merry about. Let us seek that quanity and express our thanksgiving to God. He knows our hearts.

This year as a family we will combine our Christmas letter with our periodic news letter which is sent to friends interested in our labors in Alaska and to the many men on the various fronts in the armed forces, or in civilian construction camps. This year there are not so many people to provide Christmas worship for as last year- yet this year will be a busy one. The program starts on Dec. 7th when I go South on the Alaska Railroad to a point about half-way to Anchorage, working my way North. On Dec. 16th I will leave for points along the Alcan Highway, returning on Christmas morning. The men across the border in Canada, both Canadians and U.S. forces, as well as Rev. Ward, Civilian Chaplain for that area, asked me to come down just before Christmas, holding worship for them. Rev. Ward will be on the Canol Road and at Norman Wells at that time. I have secured Religious Art (highest Quality) slides from Chicago. These I will attempt to show at a candle light service, perhaps followed by Communion. After returning from the Alcan I will again go down the railroad, being at Eklutna, the Industrial School for Indians and Esquimo, the night before New Years. This is a very good school. There is a fine faculty of Christian people there this year, and some very fine youngfolk.

This last month saw the mercury again at the bottom of our thermometer, saw me again riding freight trains, also found me in Anchorage working with Rev. Armstrong building a little chappel out on the East side. He has a fine little work going out there. The G.Is. and the women furnishing food are a big help to him in his endeavor. The family is well:- Vella is "Hello" girl at the local telephone exchange, James sells papers as well as goes to Highschool. Mrs. Bingle keeps the home fires burning.

We again wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. God can and will be with you.

The Bingles.

~~If you think we want the reprint of last year's letter you are~~?

Dr. Jackman:

I cut two stensils and both turned out terrible. I am ashamed if content as well. If you think this worthy of reprinting would you have your Secretary run off the Extra copies desired. If not I will have out another letter shortly after Jan 1st. My typewriter is not cutting so well.- Sorry. P.T.B.

DEC 18 1944

College, Alaska
Dec. 13, 1944.

Dr. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Alaska Work and S.S. Missions
Board of National Missions
Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
New York, 10, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

In answer to your letter of Nov. 29th I wish to say that I have learned thru Mr. Anderson that most of the questions you desired to be answered have now been answered thru their communication. All land outside of incorporated towns in Alaska have no taxes to pay. This may not always hold so as there is talk about imposing such tax. If and when that bill is passed to levy txes by the Territory of Alaska an exemption will be filed by myself or the chairman of the Committee of National Missions of the Presbytery.

Mr. Anderson or Mr. Johnson has answered the question of Insurance, but I think it runs to next Spring some time, and is for $2,000.00. That amount was set before the extra room was put on the end which now contains the bath and the stairs to the basement. That was built shortly before we moved into the house some three years ago. With the addition of the bath and the stairs, plus what I put on and will finish as soon as we can get the property finally straightened out as to title, you can see it will be worth more than the $4,000.00 The Price of property here will be up, at least for some little time. Price of property in town is still very much higher.

There is no garage on the property. I have a tent frame with a tent over the same for a garage. That might hold for one more year but no more. It is about four feet from the side of the house, ie a corner of each comes that close only. → house

You will find a snap shot of the house as of the present. You can see about half of the front of the tent which is the said garage. I have no other at this writing which is better. They did not turn out well. The snap enclosed has on the back the answer to the questions concerning the house. It has a metal roof, the main part, and the new addition has a slate surfaced paper roofing, the best that could be purchased of that nature. There is a furnace in the basement, for wood burning. There is running water in the house, electric pump with a well in the basement. The property in the house so far, I own, as little as it is, and it is covered by insurance. The main part of the house is 16x30 ft. and the back side addition is 14x24 ft. The inside of the main part is finished with plyboard. The addition will be finished with celotex.

Enclosed you will find a snap of the chapel up at NORTHWAY which was handed to me by an admirer. I am sending you an Alaskan souvineer folder. When are you planning your next trip North? Merry Christmas.

Rev. B. J. Bingle

P.S. Better not say anything about use of Church at Tanana Cross by ourselves. It may get the Bishop in wrong with non Episcopalians. B.J.B.

Received 12/8/44

1/22/45

C O P Y (original returned to The Rev. Bert J. Bingle, College, Alaska from whom it was received)

Address reply to:
Commanding General
Air Transport Command
Washington 25, D.C.

ARMY AIR FORCES
Headquarters, Air Transport Command
Washington 25, D.C.

AFATC/PER/CAS/wrd
2 October 1944

Dear Reverend Bingle:

Reports have reached this office indicating that you have been administering to the religious needs of our troops at one of the bases of the Air Transport Command. As supervising Chaplain of this command, I wish to express in the name of the Commanding General our deep appreciation for the fine spirit of self sacrifice, good will and your kindness in this respect.

Please do not hesitate to call upon me for assistance anytime you feel need for it. It is my desire to match your generous services with the most efficient and willing help at my command.

Again thank you for all you have done and may God bless you and your work.

Sincerely,

(signed) Clement A. Siwinski

Clement A. Siwinski
Staff Chaplain
Air Transport Command

JAN 2 1945

College, Alaska.
Dec. 27, 1944.

Dr. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Alaska Unit and Sunday School Missions
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York, 10, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

Enclosed you will find some snap shots that Mrs. Rolland Armstrong took when she and Miss Betty Braun were with me on my trip down the highway in Oct. You see Miss Braun in some of the pictures. They are of native children taken after a Sunday School session with them, place- Northway, Alaska. You will not ice snow on the ground and one child barefooted. Someone asked an Alaskan Indian once if when they were bare like that if they did not get cold. He replied with this question-"Does your face get cold?" When he heard a negative reply which he expected he added, "Indian face all over".

Returned Christmas morning at three oclock from my trip down the Alaska Military Highway. My last service was at Big Delta C.A.A. at 9:30 P.M. I showed slides on the nativity of Christ, religious art pictures. This was followed by a candle light service. At 50 mile camp where there are four people the lady cook told me a week before when I delivered to her the beautiful calendars you sent that if there was a light on when I returned Christmas eve I should stop. It was just 12:40 as I passed the camp and to my suprise a light was on in the kitchen. I backed up and drove in and there they had a turkey dinner awaiting me.--- On this trip I went down about 50 miles into Canada, helping Rev. Ward who could not make four stations on the upper end of his run. The response was mighty fine. I even held service at one Canadian Airport, the chaplain could not make in for the occasion. They being short on music and having a lad there who surely could play church music, I left him some at least to work on till other material could be found. -- Snow was deep down the road farther than I was, had been very icey for many miles, so driving had to be with care. I even went skiing behind the car with a sargent for a distance of 8½ miles-- even I, in my age. Will be ready for more of that at a little later date.

About 8 months ago an Indian Village 12 miles from the highway had religious worship, they asked me to come in just before Christmas. It is really under the Episcopal care but their man will not arrive till next June. So I went in by dog team. It was 20 below on the way in and 25 on the way out. An emergency trip that afternoon with my car to the doctor 35 miles away with an Indian who had a bad hemorage of the lung made me go in at night. But it was beautiful with the moonlight shining thru the heavily frosted brush, trees or grass. Fairy land had nothing over this ride. At ten that night when the bell rang about 60 of the village arrived for worship. Again I showed the religious art slides of the nativity of Jesus. And did they love to see those pictures! Most

of them had never seen anykind of such pictures before. I hope to return about the middle of Feb. if I can for more on the life of Christ.

Tomorrow morning finds me going down toward Anchorage again. I want to get into one or two coal mines, visit one village that I have not been in for some little time, plus going to those places on this end of the rail belt that I attempt to get to once every 6 weeks or such a matter. At this time I will be at the Eklutna Vocational School for Indians and Esquimo, their invitation is for next Sunday night. Also I hope to be able to get someting concrete going in the way of building for our Kings Lake Camp property where we hold the various church conferences. We must build or we cannot hope to continue such good conferences as we have had in the past. Our equiptment is too run down ! Col. C.E. Albrecht, formerly of Palmer church, now of Fort Richardson, Elmer Rasmussen banker of Anchorage,-his father is elder in the Skagway Church, and some more good folks such as the 4-H leader- Miss Hazel Zimmerman of Anchorage, Will be of helpful assistance.

Dr. I wish to thank you and the fine young lady in the office there for your Christmas rememberence. -- May you all back there have a very happy and prosperous New Year.

The projector arrived,--- but it is not the one I ordered. The one received is the same type I have already, and it is insufficient. You hear me speak about the Indians that I am trying to minister to.-- They are just like babes. The material that I carry for the Beginners Dept. of the church is what I teach them with. They understand that language better. I need pictures to show those people and explain to them about the Bible and the Christ and the teachings. I am getting together as much as I can. But they have no electricity where they are. With the S.E.V profector, the A.A.A. Model I am informed that I can run it off my car engine. If that is the case this winter when it is dark I can get those natives out under the trees and show them what I want to show, or teach. O! it will be cold all right, but just a few more layers of clothes will do the trick. I have no other way to reach them adequately. They need Bible instruction. I am sending you the advertisment that I received from the Society of Visual Education ,100 East Ohio St., Chicago, Ill. I have marked again that which I need for the work. Will you again try and see If I cannot get that projector? I will hold this one till you tell me where it is to be returned to. And tell them to pack it all around with padding. One side and one end of this one was against the side of the carton box. Both bulbs were broken. ---If a big movement moves up toward Fred from here by Summer-it could be a possibility, it could not too,- then I should have a sound projector and a good use of our church film. -- That is something to keep in mind. These new missionaries coming into the field up here are arrayed in such details better than Solomn and all his glory. They are giving me competition on the rail belt.

One more thing I would like to tell you, I think you should know. Very recently the best Catholic chaplain that I have met on this road for good hard work was transferred from this area to the area around Nome and North, making up into Wales very frequently. That boy works civilian as well as Army personel. He was formerly Missionary to the Esquimo up in North Canada. With the Alaska Native Territorial guard a good going concern up on that coast opportunities may be unlimited. -- This I learned on my lasttrip out. It may mean nothing, yet we had a serious problem there last year with another going in.

Sincerly . Rev. B.J. Bingle.

Memorandum January 10, 1945
To - - Dr. Thorne
From - Unit of Work in Alaska - Miss Koerner
Re; - Projector sent to The Rev. B.J.Bingle, College, Alaska

We have just received word from The Rev. Mr. Bingle that the projector arrived "...but it is not the one I ordered. The one received is the same type I have already, and it is insufficient.....I need pictures to show people and explain to them about the Bible and the Christ and the teachings....But they have no electricity where they are. With the SEV projector, the A.A.A. Model I am informed that I can run it off my car engine.....Will you again try and see if I cannot get that projector? I will hold this one till you tell me where it is to be returned to. And tell them to pack it all around with padding. One side and one end of this one was against the side of the carton box. Both bulbs were broken....."

We are sorry about this error because our memo to you definitely stated an S.V.E.Arojector which carries a 300 watt lamp. Can the one he now has be returned, and will it be possible to send Mr. Bingle an S.V.E. Tri-Purpose Model AAA or DD projector, showing single or double frame slidefilms and 2" x 2" slides? We are attaching the clippings which he sent us in reference to this projector.

We will appreciate hearing from you as to what can be done about this exchange.

Unit of Work in Alaska
per

FK
Att. 2 clippings re:
SVE projector; Model AAA

January 17, 1945

The Rev. Bert J. Bingle
Box 1027
College, Alaska

My dear Mr. Bingle:

We were glad to learn that the projector had arrived but sorry to know that it does not meet your requirements.

We have contacted Dr. Thorne, who is in charge of our Visual Aid office here and through whom we secure these projectors, film, etc., and he advises several things. Through a misunderstanding he was not informed that you wanted to use filmstrip on the projector and that you wanted to connect the same to your car engine. He suggests that if you want to use the projector which you now have, it is possible to send you a new lamp, some cord and clips which would enable you to use it on the storage battery of your car but it will not show filmstrip. If you definitely want to use filmstrip the projector you now have must be returned and we will endeavor to replace it with the model you describe in your most recent letter. We are wondering if it is possible for you to sell the projector which you now have to somebody up there. This would save the projector from any more shipping wear and we could make any financial readjustment necessary. However, if you are shipping the one you now have back to us, wrap it securely and return it to Dr. Frederick R. Thorne, Room #833, Board of National Missions, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, New York. Let us know when you ship it out so we may have an idea when to expect it. You mention in your letter that the bulbs were broken. We are trying to collect insurance on these. When the projector is returned, if that is what you plan to do, and it is in good shape we shall try to resell the same; there are no exchanges possible on these instruments and we must secure a priority to purchase them. Let us know what you plan to do and we shall work from there on.

At this time, Mr. Jackman is on an extended trip to the Pacific Coast. Your letters will be brought to his attention upon his return to the office around February 1st. We did not want too much time to be lost in the interim - hence this letter in his absence.

We are very interested in your various trips and experiences and are always glad to receive your letters which keep us informed.

Sincerely yours,

Frieda Koerner, Secretary to
J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

FK

JAN 24 1945

College, Alaska.
Jan. 19, 1945.

Dr. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Alaska Unit and Sunday School Missions
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave/.
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

Enclosed you will find the reports desired. I hope I get them put in alright. Being absent from home has caused the delay. Also when home the woodpile somehow has a great attraction, that is beside doing always sufficient work on the car that it function 100 percent.

You will find enclosed a statement from the Standard Garage. It is on the instalation of a new motor. Before it was certain a new car was to be purchased I found a new 1942 motor, prewar and Plymouth. When the new car was obtained I thought of selling the motor a number of times, had good offers for it. In spite of the fact I took the last money out of an Anchorage bank to pay for it I thought I should hold on to that motor, just in case. Too I would never get another like it. Before Christmas some little time the garage man told me that my car was acting wrong and that I should have an overhaul job done on it. He would not guarantee another long trip out without trouble. That I was sure would come along as the crankshaft never seems to hold up long on that make of car. Such a job as suggested I knew would cost too much money for the motor I would have as a result, also it would keep me off the road some little time. We talked it over and I phoned Anchorage and had them send up the motor. It was immediately put in and I was able to get on the road but one day late.-- Later the garage man took the head off and stated an overhaul job was not possible as the block could not be rebored that large. He told me to sell it if I had a purchaser. I doubt if that is too possible.

With this job now in the car the car is a better one than I drove out of the Chicago suburb in June. Little by little I will absorb the payment; this months bill therefore will be slightly enlarged. The next month's will be too as my tires are again giving me trouble. But with past experience and with the car being kept in top shape I am on the road this year with a greater ease than any of the two previous winters. Last year things to us were gratis in quantities. This year the difference in bills from last year was what was given last year.--That is on general running expenses. I have kept the old car. As I have stated before some possible new work could come along and if it does, rolling equiptment may be needed.

Would it be possible to contact Dr. Pugh on a matter of new work that might develope up here under the Navy. I thought I heard someone say that the head Chaplain of the Navy is a member of our church. If so It might be possible for the Doctor to see this Chaplain ascertaining if and when the Navy developes any oil--if found--, perhaps having contractors building pipelines from here to such place, maybe a road way and telephone line too, that our Church could care for the Services in the contractors camps, assuming the SeeBees do not do the work of such building. If such contact can be made at the head offices ahead of time as we were able to do with the Matanuska Valley I feel that we would be able to do a better work, have a recognition as the agency assigned to do the work, or at least given permission for the same. Rumor is coming thru from the states of something big coming along for the Territory. What it is we know not, and seem to know less than those that write up. Find out what you can and if we can serve let us get ready in advance.

Your buletin was received, a statement was included in which you plan to spend about three weeks in the Alaska Presbytery, starting about Apr. 1st, after which you will come to the Yukon Presbytery and visit all the churches including the Artic work and maybe still be back in NewYork in April! if possible You need to visit every place, you need to see the Artic work, the work will not have the opportunity that it would have if you do not get to each respective point, but you cannot do it in one week, or in two weeks. From three to four weeks will be necessary, and you dare not be nervous if it takes longer than four weeks for such trips. We just cant make such progress with the war on and with things moving as they are, and with the weather as it is this year. Artic flying has been slow. I hope you can do it but one cannot absorb so much with so little time at each place, say flying was possible. We need you up here, the tomorrow of Alaska will be bigger and different that what it is today. We need to have time as a Presbytery to sit down with you and talk things over, making plans for a long future.

I wish to ask a question about General Assembly-- assuming of course that we will have one. Since Fred resigned he automatically is dropped from representing us at the Assembly. That makes my time come up one year earlier than my five year furlough trip out. I cannot go out this year, I will be lucky if I can go next year due to work that might be one. Too since I paid the transportation of the car up-- by going after it it cost no more--I have not the money now. At the end of the five years up here Mrs. Bingle at least should go out. Since Harry has now been up here five years practically, even tho two or more was spent in S.E. Alaska, he should be the one under your five year plan to go out this year. I approached him on the matter, talked with Armstrong and Alfsen about it. It is O.K. with them. Of course I want the reservation that I will not lose my turn next year. But Harry cannot go unless he has financial help. That is too much to ask of him. He no doubt would hesitate to speak about it himself, rather stay than ask. But such overstay of time also makes short pastorates. That will hurt the work if such is the case here. Could there not be some way for your office to assume half of the expenses as he was in S.E. for about that time of his tenure in Alaska, and for the local church to assume half? Maybe you have a better idea. Maybe I should not have spoken about it but someone has to make plans and mighty soon. The one to go should be getting all set in plans and church program. He has never been representative to the Assembly. I have many times. I could even go in the early autumn if necessary when my time comes. Easter, the meeting of Presbytery, and the young peoples' Church Conference must also fit into the plans.

The check from Mr. Anderson for the house has been received. Since it did not have the full amount as stated in the letter to me at the beginning of the negotiation and since I did not get the amount that I had previously paid out in rent, namely $400.00 , that you stated would be refunded to me to improve the property such as I thought should be improved, I take it that you wish to have bills of necessary and improvement expenses forwarded on to you and the War Time Service would care for them at that end. As stated before we needed more room. To make it for this Winter I had to do the work before frost came. That room 14x24 surely is an asset to the property. I hope to finish it some day on the inside. Also I purchased linoleum for this upstairs room, which makes a world of difference in looks and service. Then just before my Christmas trip my pump went bad. It had already cost about 40 dollars andit looked like that much more was necessary to be spent. That would give me nothing soto care for the family while I was absent and to give fire protection I put in another pump, or had the N.C. Co. to do it. That used more than my 400 dollars. I have paid out personally at least three hundred. So here are the bills.

Bingle File.

FEB 10 1945

HIGHWAY MISSION

A Sermon delivered at Fairbanks, February 11, 1945 by N. Harry Champlin, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Francis Bacon in an essay on "Travel" says that he who goes forth to travel does not merely travel but goes to school as well. There is no better place to attend such a school than here in Alaska. In the years to come, thousands upon thousands will be headed in this direction to attend this same school. According to Friday's local newspaper, 40,000 inquiries a month are received in Washington, D. C. for information about Alaska. Well, this morning I would like to take you to school along the Alaska Military Highway.

We start out from the church here at 6:30 on a Thursday morning with the Rev. B. J. Bingle in his Plymouth Sedan which is heavily loaded. Mr. Bingle is our War-Time Service Highway Chaplain. The first stop is 48 miles out at an Alaska Road Commission camp where we leave some church literature, the latest newspaper and have a cup of coffee. Throughout the trip there are many of these unscheduled stops when we look in for a few minutes - leave a few things and are on our way.

Eighty miles out we meet our first test. Water has been flowing over the highway and in the sub-zero weather it has been building up layer upon layer of ice. Trucks going through cut a channel which was filled with water and banked with walls of ice. Being the first car along in many hours, there was a half-inch layer of ice over the water. We knew we couldn't get through the way it was so we spent the next hour in the bitter cold chopping ice ditches in an effort to drain the water off the road. But there was a continual flow and we were making no headway. Finally a Road Commission tractor appeared on the scene. The driver tried to discourage us saying it would ruin the car to take it through. "Come back tomorrow", he said, "and we'll have a detour made."

He was looking out for our welfare to be sure - but there is a tendency of people to take all the edge off of life for others. I liked Mr. Bingle's comment, "If I always took everyone's advice - I never would get down the road and would be spending most of my time at home." As for myself, I am a firm believer in the old

saw: "Nothing ventured, nothing gained." Young pilots are picked for combat flying because they have a tendency to be uncautious. And who can measure what we owe to them today? Jesus could have saved His life by walking away from Jerusalem - but instead He walked straight into the maelstrom. In our case there was, ofcourse, no personal danger connected with the situation. There was the chance that the car would be damaged and our trip would end there.

Well, the tractor hooked on to us with a big log chain and literally dragged us for perhaps a half mile through the ice and water. Cakes of ice crunched under the car. The water rose above the running boards and froze as it splashed on the sides of the car. But we got through with no damage done. Ice formed around the end of the shifting rod and we ran a long ways in second gear but this was quickly fixed at the next stip - Big Delta.

Pfc. Henry Vander Giessen is one of the boys in the Big Delta station of the Alaska Communication System. He was with us for a year, was our Young People's president and led the singing for the Evening Services. Now, he is a leader in the Christian work at Delta. Van set a fine dinner for us of baked ham and some of the potatoes from the 100 lb sack he had asked Mr. Bingle to bring down. Some of the other items we delivered along the raod in the course of the trip were $22 worth of groceries to an Indian woman near Big Gerstle who, with a small boy, had been standing in the cold on the highway for four hours waiting for us. She said she was out of sugar and coffee too. These we purchased down the road and delivered to her on the return trip. We delivered a radio to one man, left a phonograph and records at a maintenance camp and packages of phonograph needles were left at various places. I wondered how Mr. Bingle kept all the things straignt. As a matter of fact, he didn't! On a previous trip, someone had given him a watch to be repaired and he tried to get rid of it several times on this trip. Finally, at one place, the owner came up to him and asked for the watch. We bought the latest magazines in some of the more populated camps and left them in isolated places. We also took a school-teacher with an infected finger to an Army doctor for treatment.

The meal Van prepared for us was typical of all our meals throughout the trip. People were cordial and hospitable . . . and received us warmly. We drove up to one road maintenance camp in Canada at 10:30 at night, not having had supper. We usually tried to make these places at mealtime but sometimes we missed. The cook, upon learning this, fried eggs and bacon for us and served it with toast and coffee. We had atleast one chicken dinner and tow turkey dinners among the many other delicious meals. At first I tried to pay for these meals, but all along the trail our money seemed to be no good. This is a tribute to the services Mr. Bingle has held up and down the highway, and the interest he has taken in the people, and the acts of kindness he has done since the first contruction of the road began. You will recall the Old Testament preacher who said: "Cast thy bread upon the waters; for thou shalt find it after many days." Jesus in Luke tells us to "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

The night before we lift Fairbanks, Mr. Bingle had announced over KFAR "Tundra Topics" (news items of interest for outlying districts) that he would be at Midway at 4 p.m. with a passenger to go to Tetlin to bring mail and hold services. When some of the children in that village heard the radio announcement, the schoolteacher later told us, they ran to her and excitedly blurted out, "The preach - she come!" We arrived at Midway which is just beyond Tanacross at 6 o'clock. Though we were two hours late, we found two dogsleds and drivers dutifully waiting to take us the twelve miles to the Indian village of Tetlin.

Mr. Bingle had warned me that riding on a dogsled could be very cold going. So, though I looked forward to my first ride with keen anticipation, this was also mingled with a feeling of apprehension. I pulled on extra trousers, sweaters, mukluks and fur mittens. It was my first time to wear mukluks too, and when I stepped out of the car my feet kept trying to slide out from under me. Well, we had a pow-wow with the Indians for a while then they piled our sleeping bags and other things on the sleds. I climbed on one and we were off with a dash. That ride was a

thrill that I never expect to forget. Though it was sixteen degrees below zero, I was so stuffily bundled up that I felt quite comfortable. It was a beautiful trip with the moonlight turning the snow into sparkling diamonds - as we glided along the trail noiselessly over the frozen lakes, through the woods while the Indian driver softly whistled to the trotting dogs.

Two hours later we were in the Indian village eating roast beef supper in the white teacher's home. At 10:30 pm we all gathered in the schoolhouse for church. An hour later I showed some of my kodachrome slides. About midnight we went back to the house where Mr. Bingle married a young couple. After a little celebration with fancy cake and coffee followed by games, we managed to crawl into our sleeping bags about 2 am.

Later that morning we were up and ready to leave but there were no dogsleds in sight. The Indians had decided we were going to stay "two sleeps" as they put it. They don't believe in rushing around. They have two speeds according to the school-teacher - "slow and stop". Finally, however, we impressed upon them that we could only stay "one sleep" and had to leave. About noon the first sled appeared and Mr. Bingle was informed it was for him. You don't tell Indians about such things, they tell you. Well, he climbed on and started out. A half hour later my sled overtook him walking along the trail. His steel runner sled did not glide over the snow as easily as the toboggan-type sled I was on. My driver seemed to have no sympathy for him as we breezed right by, soon coming upon his sled. My driver determinedly said: "Get off the trail", and we passed without further ado. Their philosophy must be - "every man for himself". We made the twelve miles with five dogs in one hour and forty minutes. When Mr. Bingle finally appeared - it turned out he had walked 3 miles, and had run along driving his team for three miles while his tired driver rode!

We held services that night in the civilian mess hall at Tanacross and another service in the Indian village across the Tanana River at 10:00 pm. When we arrived at the latter place, the little log church was full of men, women and children who had been waiting an hour for us to appear. Personally, I find it difficult to imagine any white congregation waiting an hour for the preacher to appear for a church service.

And so it went down the highway - holding services in American and Canadian road maintenance camps, at a Standard oil pipeline pumping station, at a C.A.A. station and for the Canadian Airmen at Snag. One service was held at 6:30 am at Tok Junction before the road men and soldiers went to work. We held services at noon when the men came in for dinner. Many services were held in the evenings and on Sunday afternoons. The singing was always good, the attention perfect. Indeed, the services were a real inspiration to me....and I believe to all who participated. We drove through to Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, a little over 600 miles from Fairbanks. The highway was in perfect condition - smooth - well maintained. It winds its way through beautiful rugged mountains and beside lakes one of which, Kluane Lake is some 60 miles long. On separate occasions a red fox and a coyote dashed across the road in front of us. But we were always constantly reminded of civilization by the ever present telephone poles which carry four circuits all the way to the States. And to keep the soldier-like poles company is the Canol pipeline which stretches hundreds of unbroken miles from Fairbanks to Whitehorse connecting up with the Norman Wells oil fields.

At Whitehorse we took an unscheduled side-trip over the White Pass and Yukon narrow-gauge railroad down to Skagway. "Down"is the correct word. In the last twenty miles there is a drop of 2900 feet. Because of the steep climb and the addition of snowdrifts as high as the train, on the return trip we had six engines and a rotary plow hauling our train. In the days of '98 our pioneer missionary, Dr. S. Hall Young, walked over this pass with the tens of thousands of gold-rushers headed for Dawson. At Bennett Lake we took a picture of the remains of the Presbyterian Church which was built when all those thousands camped along the lake and constructed all kinds of floating crafts on which they travelled over the lakes and down the Yukon to the gold fields. The church was never quite completed but served its purpose at the time.

Likewise, along the Alaska Highway - many camps are now boarded up, but when they were filled with men, church services were held by our Highway Chaplain. It goes without saying that wherever people are they need to be reminded of the Way of

Life taught by Christ. They need opportunities to worship together for their spiritual uplift. They need to be reminded constantly of things Eternal. And they yearnfor these services even as we do.

On this historic trip over the railroad, we kept wishing aloud that one of our Southeast Alaska Mission boats would be in port when we arrived in Skagway. Well, none were in port - but, three hours after we arrived, our mission boat the "Princeton-Hall" docked, the two ministers and elder on board not having the slightest knowledge we were in Skagway. We had just finished supper at the home of our new Skagway minister and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fredsell, when in walked Rev. Paul Prouty - missionary on the Princeton*Hall, Rev, Walter Soboleff, pastor of Young Memorial Church in Juneau, and Elder Andrew Wanamaker - Captain of the Princeton-Hall. As we five ministers and elder from the north and south sat around together in fine fellowship, we realized the great possiblity of joint meetings of all the Alaskan workers from both presbyteries - Alaska and Yukon.

Next morning we all took passage on the Princeton-Hall over to Haines where we paid our Haines House orphanage a short visit and then drove up the highway to the Indian village of Klukwan - 23 miles. We spent the day visiting in the community holding a church service and communion service that night. Three infants and an adult were baptized.

We had a most unique experience after the service. Half of the people had left the church when Walter Soboleff beckoned us to beseated. He spoke several minutes in Thlinget during which we recognized the words "seventy and seven". One of the old men had not taken communion because he was angry with one of the other men in the community. There, in church he had asked to be forgiven. The two men stood up in front of the church, shook hands and with their hands clasped, we ministers placed our hands upon theirs as prayer was offered. Then each of the two spoke in Thlinget expressing the great satisfaction that was his now that he was at peace with the other. Then the old fellow received communion. It was indeed a solemn occasion- which went far towards carrying out Jesus words: "If thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; leave there thy gift

before the altar and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift." Jesus, ofcourse, went one step further and asked the innocent party to seek out his offending brother and be reconciled to him. How seldom we realize all that is included in the Christian Way of Life.

With all these events to think about we drove back to Haines. The water in Lynn Canal was so rough it seemed unwise to remain tied to the dock over night so we pulled out for Skagway. We shipped a little water from the rough seas but docked safely about 4 a.m. with a thin coating of ice over the entire boat. At noon the boat headed back for Juneau. We spent the day in Skagway - entraining for Whitehorse the next morning with the Rev. Harold Fredsell accompaning us. On the way back up the highway we stopped for services at places we missed on the way down.

Needless to say, we met a good many interesting people throughout the trip. We picked up an old prospector near Snag and took him over 200 miles into Whitehorse. Here - we would find a Presbyterian Elder from Kansas doing his part of the war effort in the far north. There - we would find an Australian-born Canadian who broke down as he told us about his son in England who had been wounded. With all the young men gone from Vancouver, he could not be satisfied to remain at home - so took the job of foreman of a road maintenance camp thousands of miles from nowhere. Several of the workers were returned veterans who had seen service in France and Africa - one who had been wounded a few months ago. One man was with the first convoy to Malta. He told how, of 87 ships in his convoy, 40 were lost - his own ship hit by a torpedo and badly crippled. The commanding officer of the military guard asked this man to see how the 32 military guards on the ship were taking the ordeal. He said every last man was lying on his bunk with Bible in hand - most of whom he was sure had to get it out of the bottom of their duffle bags. Surely our Heavenly Father does hear every uttered prayer and receives our every act of worship - but how much more helpful it is when the words we read are familiar to us and the act of praying is natural to us.

During our twelve-day trip, we covered 1250 miles by highway, 24 by dogsled, 230 by train and 30 by boat. We held ten regular preaching church services, four short prayer services and I showed my kodachrome slides eleven times - for the most part to people who had never seen kodachrome slides. Mr. Bingle showed his slides three times in Skagway - at the Manse, to the Ladies Aid, and at the Catholic Orphanage.

And that is a picture of the school we attended as we visited this Highway Mission.

Whether we travel literally very much or not - we are all pilgrims on the Highway of Life. The lessons we learn from actual travel should remind us, that inspite of everything, there is more to life than an endless journey in which men and women go on and on in the weary, monotonous, aimless existence of birth, life and death. Travelling is made quite simple in the states by route numbers by which one may reach any chosen destination. Here in Alaska, there is usually only one road to a place - so the mileposts remind us how far we have gone and how far to go. The Christian Way of Life is well marked too. Some of the signposts we saw this morning are Perseverence - Service - Kindness - Love for fellow men - Industriousness and Forgiveness. "And a highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness." Isaiah 35:8.

nhc

FEB 19 1945

Dear Dr. Jackman:-

Have the slides arrived there yet? Your Lee. Curator informed us that they had not arrived by the last of Jan. so I am having them traced as they were registered + insured. Let us know if you get them.

Bert got away

to Rome last evening.

Sincerely

Mrs. Bright

MAR 5 1945

College, Alaska
Feb. 26, 1945.

Dr. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Alaska Work and S.S. Missions
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York,-10- N.Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

You no doubt have received the communication that I sent Harry from Nome. I am sorry that he sent such a scribbled note on. I had but a short time to get the note in the mail, pen and ink at a hotel, having no desk, erraser, etc dont help too much. -- I returned from Nome on Sat. I was able to help Percy get headed North, no space for me to travel and I did not see any reason to spend the money to go farther after having seen the person we wished to see. But when I left Nome Percy was stormed bound beyond Wales- at Shismareff. That was the second time he flew over Wales and could not land. I gave him some extra change to eat on if he was put down and signed a blank check for him to hire a dog team if necessary to get from where he might be put down, to Wales-- if he could find a team. He was put down alright, but plane still was awaiting weather trying to get into Wales. By this time he will know if he can make it by air or dogs. Nome is exceeingly a Jim Crow town, he can ot get into a hotel of any quality at all when there, he still slept on the floor at a cousin's cabin till he left while I had a good bed. It is almost impossible for his wife and children to get thru that town. You can imagine him to be somewhat race conscious and I do not blame him. Of course that will spill over into other church relationship matters unless we whites watch our efforts.-- for example time of furlough and representation at Assembly. That last that means me.

MAR 5 1945

Dr. Jackman- page 2. succeeding day.

Your letters arrived regarding the property etc. I wish to say that I think I would like to discuss this matter when you arrive. I do not like to have anyone that I am laboring under to have the conviction that I make moves financially that is not warranted or could be gotten along without. I can ot do the best work that way.

The slides you are to make duplicates of, keeping the best of each two for yourself, returning the second best to me. I would like to have them as soon as can be returned. If Mrs. Hayes would like to have duplicates too have them made up, that is just a suggestion as she has some very nice slides.

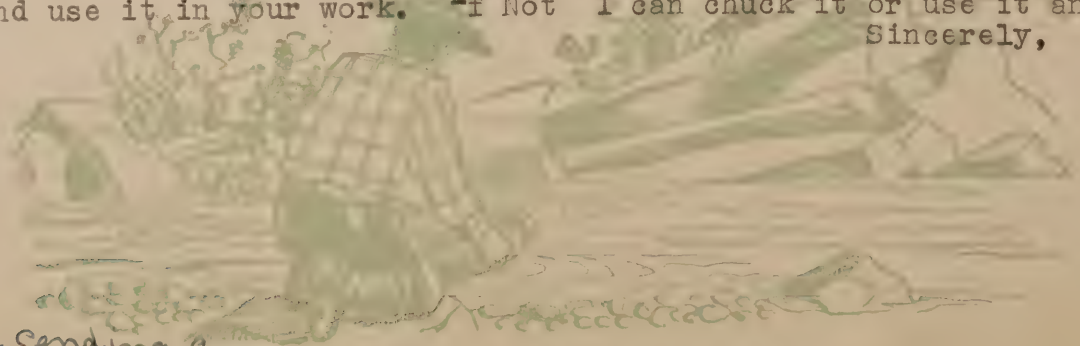
Your statement on the five year contract has arrived. I think it is a good one. It is the same as I came up under but never carried out. Is this one to be set aside by a possible successor?

Presbytery is the 18th of Apr. at Fairbanks. We changed from Cordova, I think,-- at least agreed over the telephone with Rolland--, because of time and expense. Someone should get to Cordova however as no Presbytery meeting has been held there since 1940. Last time you missed the town I believe. The Rev. never writes to anyone, he may be having hard going.

Drink, gamboling, and in general a"going to Hell" is the policy of those that are in outposts of construction and maintainance. It is worse than during the height of construction. I can slow down my going to save expenses but then what? In Nome the other day I heard in Independent missionary say that he asked God to give him $5000.00 to come to Alaska. He stated he had the amount within thirty days. Did God answer that prayer? He says He did. Why? ---- This man is just one of a great multitude coming up North. They are investing thousands of dollars and come with the latest sound and moving picture equiptment, some of them, putting up the best of buildings, and have the lastest in Education. You can imagine how that makes us who are older in the work have some mental pictures of equiptment and education needed to hold the day with the newman.

Harry has sent you, as well as Mrs. Bingle, the account of his looking over the work on the Alcan as chairman of the National Missions Comm. The trip was somewhat longer than we, or I, have been taking, yet it was a good inovation. It shows what can be done in getting North and South Alaska together. For some week now, during spare time, I have been trying to put into writing some of the past few years of this work. I do not know if you will be interested in it or not. If in the next few days I can get a copy started off to you I will be pleased for your reaction. I thought if you cared for it you might incorporate it with Harrys statement and use it in your work. If Not I can chuck it or use it another way.

Sincerely,



P.S. Am sending a
dozen copies of above letter
as requested 13 Mar.

March 8, 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Bert J. Bingle
Box 1027
College, Alaska

Dear Bert:

Thank you for your report on the situation concerning Percy and Wales. We are glad to get this information because Percy had given us so little information over a period of five months. We had paid him for everything up to the first of the year except the month of November when he asked to have off without pay. We held up his January and February checks because we had no knowledge of his whereabouts. Since your visit with him he has arrived at Wales and we have forwarded his check for the travel expense and January and February salary checks. His regular salary checks will now go forward as usual. We have no disposition to restrict our missionaries but we have difficulty in justifying expenditures without any knowledge of their whereabouts and activities. I hope we can come to a satisfactory understanding on this when I see Percy the latter part of April or early May.

We have made arrangements to secure the balance of your expenditure on the house and hope to get the check in time to forward with this letter. The rest of the matters in your letter of February 26th we will go over when we have an opportunity for a conference at the time of Presbytery.

We greatly appreciate the fine message which Harry gave concerning his trip with you and also appreciate this intimate picture of your own ministry. When the extra copies arrive we will use them to send to those who are making contributions toward your support.

I am looking forward to a visit with you at the time of Presbytery.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK
Enc. Check #17245-$77.63

P.S. A check for $157.15 is being sent to the Northern Commercial Co., Fairbanks, Alaska in payment of the statement which you sent in recently for January 1945 purchases. We are also forwarding a check for $15.70 (15.70 to Mr. Andrew Nerland, P.O. Box 610, Fairbanks, Alaska in payment of the June 1944 statement.

Alaska Highway

MAY 18 1945

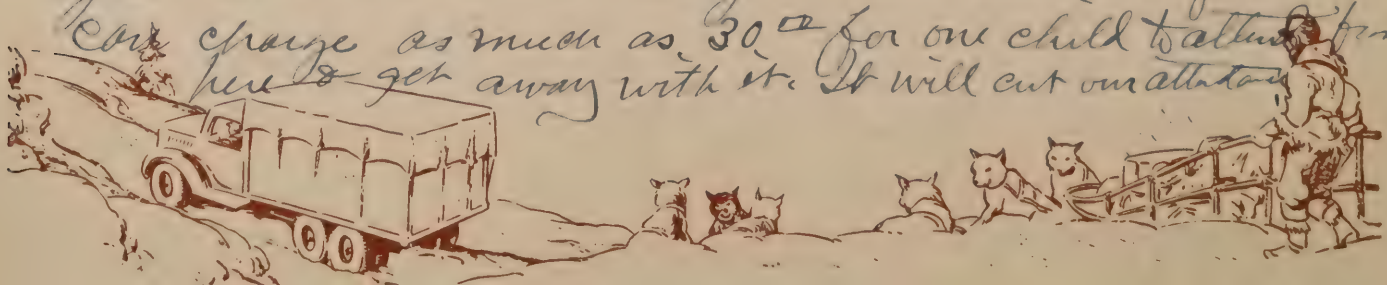
College. Alaska
May 14 - '45

Dr. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Alaska Unit SS. Missions
106 Fifth Ave -
New York - 10 - N.Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

You are now back thinking your trip to Alaska is perhaps just a dream. You were so many places in such a short time. From tropic to arctic. Hope you are rested up and enjoyed it all.

Just a word about our Summer Camp and the Board of Christian Education. For all Summer Assemblies such as this - accredited conferences - the Board of Christian Education has to put up some money. It should as it is the work to train Youth. For our conference they not only put up no money but on the basis of last year cost we considerably over $100 00 for materials which I paid to them. Is there not some way we can get that as their contribution. Our camp cost this year will be so much larger and I doubt if we can charge as much as 30 00 for one child to attend from here to get away with it. It will cut our attendance



So far I have still lived and after yesterdays Services for Harry I have two more Sundays to go. I have not yet figured what to do for June 3rd I wired Fred to see if he would be down there but a return wire stated "Can't Promise Anything". I must go to Palmer to get the coast ready.

I understand Harry passed his physical. I do not know the score from there on but I feel Harry should have the opportunity to get into Service if he wants to go there. This is the 3rd or 4th time he applied and each time the Church has asked him to stay or given him another important task. He has done his part and I feel as he feels that his contribution can be greater for his Long ministry ahead if he was willing to go thru the Cataclysm with the men of the Present. I think that Commission of ours with Dr. Pugh at the head should allow him to be in the service this time. -- I do not know what will happen here but I guess we can keep it going till you can get a man up to care for it. The Lord & you have always figured a way out before! Best wishes to you in your many labors.

Sincerely

Rev. B. J. Pugh

P.S. Have had no To-Days for 2 months - Please see that they keep coming. Thanks.

May 24, 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Bert J. Bingle
Box 1027
College, Alaska

Dear Bert:

In regard to your letter of May fourteenth concerning the Young People's Conference, I doubt if we can secure any further help from the Board of Christian Education toward the expenses of the Conference. A part of the grant which comes through our office comes from the Interboard Commission for conferences in missionary areas and Christian Education shares with our Board in it. However, you might write to their office and on the basis of accrediting the Conference secure additional help. There is no harm in making the effort. You should do it direct because the grant from the Interboard Commission comes through our office and we should not be in a position of asking for more than we now receive.

Fred may be in Fairbanks before you receive this letter, but if not the reason he has said he could not be counted on for anything during Harry's absence lies in the fact that he has a couple of teeth out and needs to have his full time for dental work.

I have written to Dr. Pugh about Harry's application for the Chaplaincy and the Committee is to have a conference with him in Minneapolis. We shall all await the result. We shall want to know whether the action of the Committee will be favorable so we can begin looking for a replacement. You have your own work to do and should not be asked to carry on much responsibility in the Church, nor should we allow the Church to be pastorless very long.

You will be interested to know that when Assembly is over it is expected that Dr. Pugh will cover a part of Alaska for the Protestant Chaplains. I do not know how far up into the Territory he will go but am told that he is to go out the Chain.

We have checked on the mailing of Today and will hope to get some information so that it will keep coming.

Kindest personal regards!

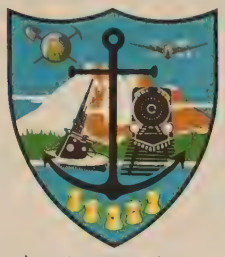
Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

My may report will be at least 4 wks late, B.J.B.

ANCHORAGE HOTEL



ANCHORAGE
ALASKA

JUN 13 1945

College, Alaska
June 4 - 45

Dr. Earl Jackman
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York. 10 - N. Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

Enclosed you will find first bills on the material to complete the back room of the house. The remainder of the $200.00 allowed will be used up at a later date. It is liable to be a few weeks yet however.

Rec'd your letter in answer to mine about Church conference etc. I will take the matter of further help from the Board of Christian Education thru Harry when I get home. He should arrive this eve. I will get there 2nd week from today.

Mrs. Bingle, Tomes & self are down attempting to get our Camp in readiness Rev. Armstrong & Rev. Olsen are assisting as

a camp com. we hired Rev. Bromleys care taker & helper for the summer. He is paid from camp usage fees.

The first camp is in one week from today. Rev. Armstrong & Rev. Nelson are together on their Junior Church work. They have a good program in operation. To get the camp ready after doing nothing for three & four years is considerable work. I had to make purchases & run bills in my name also pay some by check. The Govt. will give us some materials and & get them we must pay a nominal fee. They are very helpful. But if we are to have a place for future church camps we must do something now. We should get back our investment by Autumn.

When back in Fairbanks I am going to see the Extension Service of the University Seeing if they & we can erect some small camps. They have materials up in the Fairbanks area. The D. I is were declared off limits" at the lake camp from Fairbanks about 50 mi. The men in Service should be having the same opportunity for outings by the Church as civilians.

Best Wishes -Rev. B J Bingle.

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America
156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.

July 3, 1945

Fairbanks Lumber Supply
Box 629
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed you will please find our Board's check in the amount of $160.08 which is in payment of bills #9505 for $120.57 and #9547 for $39.51. These bills represent materials purchased by The Rev. B.J.Bingle, College, Alaska in May 1945. We will appreciate a receipt for this payment for our future records.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

FK
Enc. Ck. #29020-$160.08

VIA AIRMAIL

COPY

College, Alaska
July 4/45.

JUL 9 1945

Dear Dr. Jackman: -

This letter was received some time ago and should have been forwarded to you before this. Mr. Bingle has been too busy to answer, due to trying to do double work - his and Harry's during his past absence.

Since this correspondence with the Juneau office on this matter was initiated by your office prior to your coming, I would suggest that you care for the matter. Assistance in decision could be if you could ascertain if the Seven Day Adventists consider Kenibel one of their mission stations. Prior to this coming there were no Seven Day Adventists on the Island as you know. There is a statement floating

around the Territory that they intend to construct a Church building. This I cannot verify. Recently at a Prayer Meeting of this group at Palmer they prayed especially for their work on St. Lawrence Island.

Each Sat. Mrs. Daugherty had worship for her family in her home allowing others to attend. This initiated the movement. Whether this continues to the present I do not know. I assume from the growth of the movement that this must be the case. Cannot verify this at present.

Mr. Daugherty has been a great service to our work on the Island. No one could have done more unless it would have been a minister himself. I consider Mrs. Daugherty the enthusiastic youth for the faith.

Bent is leaving tomorrow

by train to hold services enroute to Palmer, where he will help get the Camp ready for our Young Peoples Camp July 17-22-

There was a lot of work that had ~~the~~ done this year. No improvements had been made for some time. The men who formely helped with such work were busy with their farm work and the young men are in Service. Rev. Armstrong, Alfred Rev. have worked hard also.

Wish you might be here some time to attend the Camp. Better plan on it!

Sincerely B. J. Bingle
by
Mrs. B. J. Bingle

For The Rev. B.J.Bingle

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America
156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.
July 12, 1945

Mr. George A. Dale
Alaska Department
U.S.Department of Interior
Office of Indian Affairs
Chicago 54, Illinois

My dear Mr. Dale:

Mrs. Bingle has forwarded to me your letter of June twelfth in regard to the situation on St. Lawrence Island. Knowing that you were leaving Alaska June 29th to come to the Chicago office, we are writing you there hoping that you may receive this letter.

It has not been my privilege to visit St. Lawrence Island yet. Last April I waited three days in Nome hoping to get over but all transportation failed and I was not able to get there. I do not speak, therefore, from actual experience on the ground but only from reports which have come to us.

We have in our office the reports from three different missionaries who have served on St. Lawrence Island at different periods during the time The Daugherty's have been there. Each one of these missionaries, independent of the others, have reported that The Daugherty's themselves have been a disturbing influence so far as the ministry of the Church is concerned among the Eskimos. Where formerly there was a united and cooperative spirit among the people of the village there is now a divided spirit and considerable friction instead of harmony and cooperation. The Daugherty's came in with their Seventh Day Adventist teaching and sought to gather the people to follow their teaching rather than the teaching of the Presbyterian Church which had been followed by the whole village. Other interferences with our work have been reported.

During a recent visit to the Arctic Coast, I was informed that The Daugherty's have had this disturbing influence in the life of every community in which they have served in Alaska. We have nothing against them personally but do feel it would be helpful for the entire village if they could be replaced by teachers who would co-

operate with the Mission instead of trying to take people away from the Church which has ministered to them over a long period of years.

Again may I say this statement is made on the basis of reports which have come, but these reports have been received from people who have lived in the midst of this situation.

We would record our appreciation for the cooperation which has come to our mission program in Alaska through the Juneau Office of Indian Affairs. At the same time we want to assure you that we desire also to cooperate in the program and the government direction.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JIJ:FK

CC The Rev. Bert J. Bingle

Alaska Highway

JUL 30 1945

College, Alaska
July 19- 43 -

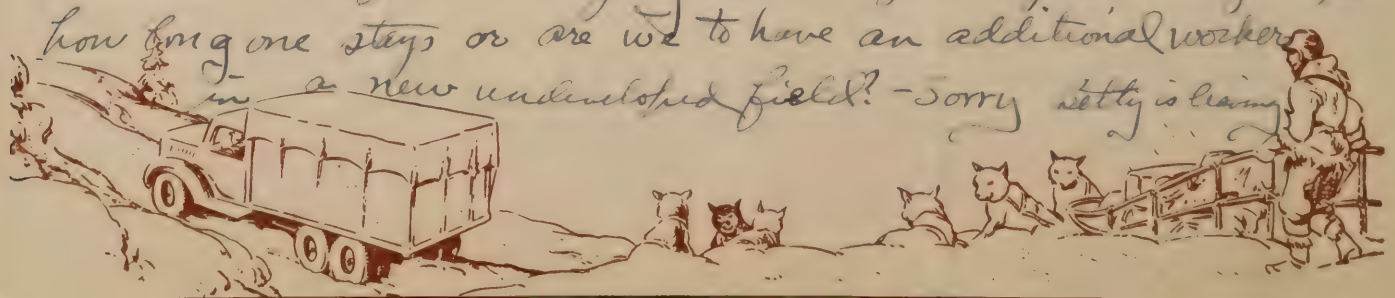
Dr. J. Earl Jackman
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York - 10 - N. Y.

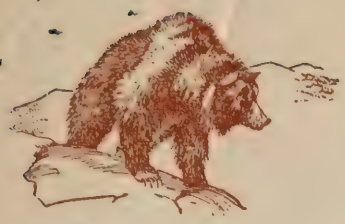
My dear Dr. Jackman:

We are in the midst of our Church Youth Conference. We are not so many as last year, due in part to having it in July instead of Aug. as heretofore- and due to more young men in the armed forces and younger must work. -- It is raining just like Aug. too- as hard if not harder than some conferences.

We are having a fine conference- have good leadership and we are having a fine spirit. We have enlarged equipment this year and it is easier. The cost is more by twice however. But it is worth it. The young people are a pretty good grade too.

Your news letter is here - You speak of need of three good ministers now- for our Presbytery. Is that a guess by the law of average how long one stays or are we to have an additional worker in a new undeveloped field? - Sorry Betty is leaving



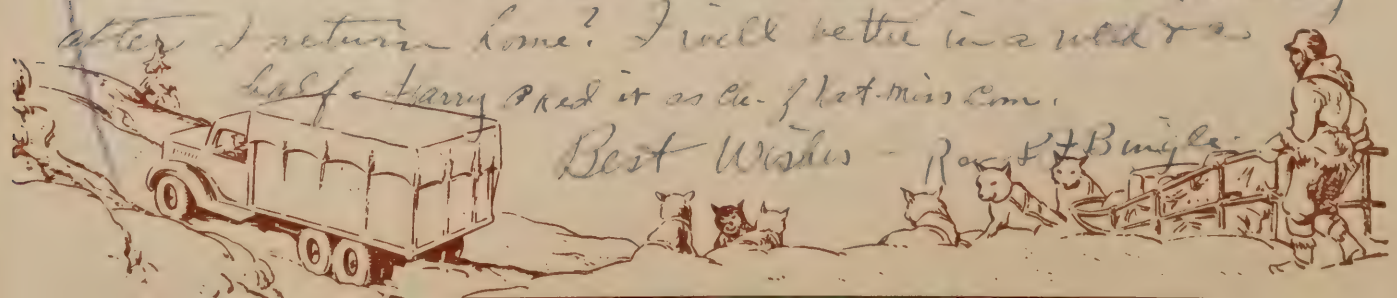


Alaska Highway

Did Dr. Keller ever show you the letter I wrote him when he on the side stated; in his letter written on another matter of Dr. Bechtel coming - that I was to have $500.00 for the garage. I tried to put in a "plug" for you so if you asked for an amount at another time you would get it. Since You stated I was criticised for having involved expenses with permit I signed it must come from the property division. If you have not seen it ask him for it. I meant to have it marked personal to the Sec. would we related? No matter. But in a joking way I tried to tell him the actual condition. It's end it was no joke at the time.

This leads up to the expenses on the garage. I found a building partly constructed just across the road which I can move over on our property which will save me much work. I need the use of my jeep. I have been off it so much this summer getting this camp ready. Will you send me $150.00 of the garage allotment so I can consummate the deal and get started shortly after I return home? I will better in a week or so. Larry hated it as he left this am.

Best Wishes - Robert Bingle



Brandt Selder.

AUG 27 1945

THE PRESBYTERIAN COMMITTEE ON CAMP AND CHURCH ACTIVITIES

(SERVING PRESBYTERIAN SOLDIERS AND SAILORS)

REV. JOHN H. GARDNER, Jr., Baltimore, Md., REV. WILLIAM BARROW PUGH, Philadelphia, Pa., REV. WALTER D. KNIGHT, Newton Centre, Mass., REV. RAY FREEMAN JENNEY, Chicago, Ill., REV. GEORGE H. TALBOTT, Passaic, N. J., REV. JESSE HALSEY, Chicago, Ill., REV. FLOYD POE, Dallas, Texas, REV. HERMANN N. MORSE, New York, N. Y., REV. EUGENE C. BLAKE, Pasadena, Calif., [redacted]

REV. JOHN H. GARDNER, Jr. ..... Chairman
REV. WILLIAM BARROW PUGH ..... Secretary
REV. WALTER GETTY ..... Office Executive

Telephone ..... Pennypacker 2319

ROOM 501, WITHERSPOON BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA 7, PA.

July 31, 1945

Dr. Jackman — Look this over. If this cannot meet the new requirements I don't know how I can make it better. I have not the time to figure out all the details. Either I keep on the road where the men are to get to the or I take my time for desk work. Stay off the road. The work must be done.

Dear Friend:

Enclosed please find a report blank for the camp area activities in your church and community for the past month. We appreciate all that you are doing in your project and we want to keep in touch with you in all your work.

Sincerely yours,

Walter Getty

Walter Getty.

You see I have been using the funds to help on Travel Expenses so I can get out to these men. I talked to Dr. Keeler about it — he stated it unusual but that it still the best.

AUG 27 1945

REPORT OF WAR-TIME PROJECT

PRESBYTERIAN COMMITTEE ON CAMP AND CHURCH ACTIVITIES

WAR-TIME SERVICE COMMISSION.

501 Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia 7, Penna.

CITY OR TOWN College, Alaska - Yukon Presbytery - at large.

NAME OF CHURCH OR GROUP Central Alaska

NAME OF PASTOR OR WORKER Rev. B.J. Bingle

ADDRESS OF PASTOR OR WORKER College, Alaska

PERIOD COVERED BY REPORT July 1-31, 1945

I. ACTIVITIES CARRIED ON DURING THE MONTH. Please indicate in detail the services rendered by your group, including worship services, youth groups, dinners, parties, entertainment in homes, overnight accommodations, personal interviews, etc.

visitation to 9 Scattered outposts - army
Services - worship were held for 5 different groups.
had one youth group for week end - at our home.
had youth group meeting where few Enlisted men attended at a Lake Camp.
Took 5 Enlisted men on short but interesting field trips. One on a very long one.
Good personal conversations with the men at scattered outposts. They have but little opportunity for such.
Had 6 for meals at home or at Restaurant, as occasion would allow.

II. APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF PERSONS SERVED THROUGH PROJECT.

90 persons more or less - Soldiers Scattered over many hundreds of miles. besides these served Special Civilian workers I also served who work side by side with the Soldier in remote areas who need the same attention - they are absent from time too for the Rest.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

IV. PLANS BEING MADE FOR THE RETURN OF SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN.

no plans at this date that can be revealed - Where I serve there will be men for many months yet - Perhaps permanently.

V. SPECIAL ITEMS Tell of other services rendered, any problems or difficulties encountered, any needs unmet, also tell of any methods or materials you have found helpful. (Enclose copies of any materials you have developed.) Illustrate with stories and pictures where you can. Indicate how the Committee might be of help to you.

DATE: Aug 23-43 Signed B J Bingle.

Send this report to Rev. Dr. Walter Getty, 501 Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia 7, Penna., as soon as possible after the first of the month.

August 3, 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Bert J. Bingle
Box 1027
College, Alaska

Dear Bert:

We shall ask for $300. as a start on the garage plan. That will get you the building if you feel it is the thing to do and give you a margin to work on. Be sure to keep a strict account so we can settle with the auditors.

I had asked for "an amount not to exceed $600." for the garage but I was in Alaska when it was acted upon and Dr. Keeler only recommended $500. We wrote you before that this was available.

Hope you have a good conference.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jacobson, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

FK

AUG 14 1945

Dear Dr. Jackman:-

Am wondering if you might be in or near Chicago around the 10 to 12 Sept. If so, you can contact me thru Dr. E. F. George 146 Loomis St. Naperville, Ill. or the following two weeks if you should be near Toledo, O. I will can be reached thru N. T. Morrison 1050 E. State St. Fremont, O.

Sincerely

Mrs. B. J. Bright

King's Lake
Feder

AUG 11 1945

College, Alaska
Aug. 7, 1945

Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Unit of Alaska Work
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York,10- N. Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:-

Your letter concerning the garage was recently recieved, also the check to the Independent Lumber Co(I should have stated -Fairbanks Lumber) Thank you for your prompt attention to both of them.

My report for the month of July had to of necessity be late. These three days home now are the first in a row for six weeks or more. It should ease up but little till Sept. In Oct. it will be bad again. I must go down and do more work on the King's Lake Camp. If I get to General Assembly next year and not have the work done prior it would be difficult to hold the same we desire-- our Young People's Church Conference. I wish there were a way, with the set up as it is, for the Board of National Missions, or our Presbytery, to get the running of the whole King's Lake project.(see report on some items) While it is owned by our church people in the valley, or former church people now in Anchorage, that should make no difference. The ideal and the purpose of the camp is the ideal andpurpose of the church. I wrote the constitution and also the articles of Incorporation, we all are agreed. It is set up for organization encampments, organizations that are of a constructive nature- socially, recreationally, educationally, and religiously. It is of necessity that we all work together, to meet health requirements for a camp, also to share expenses and keep to a minimum fire or theft. I believe we could rent in on a long term basis. That would mean that we would not only have to do the building that is necessary, but we also could build. Buildings must be built, I fear money will soon start coming from the saloons for that effort. I never want that to happen. Members of Presbytery feel as I and are concerned.--- If we built another camp and by ourselves, we would have to have the same sized set-up and the fire and theft hazard would be great, plus no help on expenses.

When you were with us I mentioned to you about our coming out next year, due to be our furlough year, or the possble waiting to the following year. We did not know what was ahead for us,-we still do not, but you suggested we would await further developments. The further developments have arrived. Our daughter- Vella desires to go to college. I am sorry that I do not know a Presbyterian Church college where friends would look after her quite a bit for us. Being born in an Evangelical home I naturally

went to an Evangelical Church school-- North Central, near Chicago. A great host of our friends are there and they will look after her interests. That must be a prime consideration. Too it is a good Christian school,ie it has been. That I hope will give her good foundation for later citizenship. Being near Chicago will also help make up for the things we have been absent of up here in the North. I refer to music and art.

This leads up to the big question, funds to go to school on. She has some laid up from her work, she has ample clothes for some time. She also ownes the car which she will sell. This should give her enough for one year in school.--- After that the Lord I guess will show us the way. Since she was 19 years of age at a recent date, and sinne our assignment goes by five years periods, providing a return to the states at the end of each assignment, would you ask those in authority if they could not allow her 3/5 of the cost of travel to Chicago from Fairbanks? The cost by boat and train would be in round figures of $200.00. Three-fifts of the amount would be $120.00. If it were less than this amount it could be returned.

It will be necessary for Mrs. Bingle to take her out. That will set us back about $400.00. Since our time of going out is next year I could not ask for help there. But should our delay be till the sixth year I would not feel too chagrinned to ask further, but let that be for the present. -- We will have to have our youth camp construction completed to do what our Presbytery wants to do or I know I cant be absent next Summer. -- So you see finances press us to the request. She needs to go to school, I want her to go. She feels the necessity to go. I only hope and pray that it will make her arrive in Christian work somewhere. Will you let me know as to this one the earliest possible mail? Mrs. Bingle will leave here no later than in two and one-half weeks.

It is not any of my work, hence I should not be inquiring, but I am interested to learn if you have any lead for a man to go to Barrow? Also I fear I did a poor job about Wales. Percy was still at Kotzebue the other day. That is not his fault again I say. That wife of his will be his problem to the end of his life, if she cannot be stationed right in her home vacinity or home town. That is my personal conviction. I believe Percy feels that way too. The fact that he gave a few personal statements of personal nature to lead me to that thought. Since all Esquimo love their families very much, have a devotion that we whites do not posess, I believe it is just a matter of time and he will be too discouraged to continue with our work. If such a day arrived the next possible thing, to salvage something, would be to do Christian work in her home town. I did my best to try to see her before leaving Nome but she refused to come over to go with Percy and no planes were travling. I would have tried my best to get her over that handicapt.

Thank you for your past helpfulness, and the gift of the feeling that one can write when he is in the need of assistance.

Sincerely,

R. J. Bingle

AUG 17 1945

College, Alaska
Aug. 8/45

Dear Dr. Jackman:-

Just a few lines to say that Tilla has decided not to go outside to school at this time so our requests on her behalf can be cancelled. She may take some subjects at the University here instead.

Bert would like to have 50 "Evangelistic and Worship Hymns" books if they are available. If you have anything any better that has responsive readings in and the familiar hymns that would be O.K.

He is working on our back room putting in the partition. Did you get the duplicates made yet to those slides I sent? If so

we would like to have ours
returned when possible.

Thank you

Sincerely

Mabel Bingle

Alaska Highway

SEP 24 1945

College, Alaska
Sept. 19, 1945

Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Unit of Alaska Work
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York 10 N.Y.

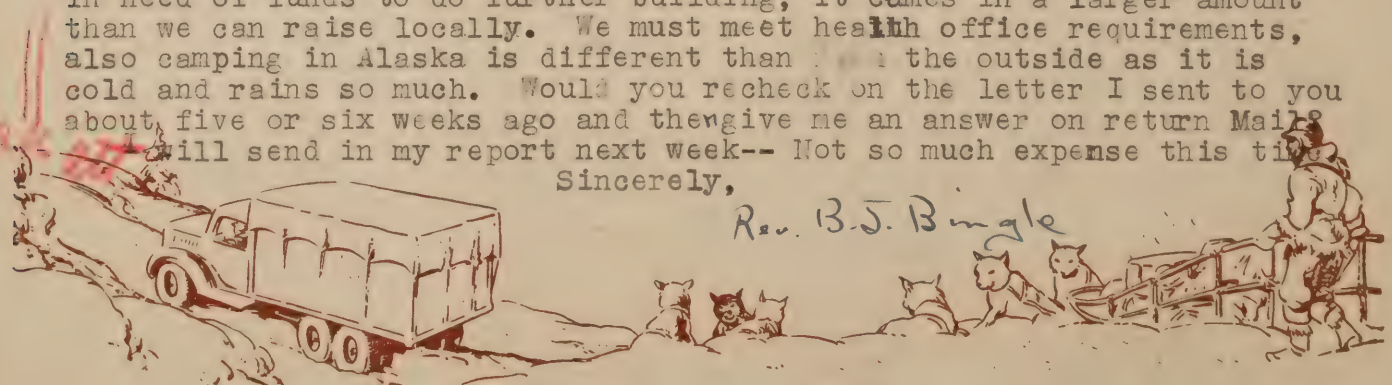
My dear Dr. Jackman:

You are perhaps anxious to learn how the work is to line up now that the war with Japan is over. That subject I cannot give full information on yet. I am starting down the highway again tomorrow, then I should know more as changes will be had by Oct. 1st. It looks this way: A few soldiers will be left at one place in particular, besides the telephone or the telegraph enlisted men. But at each of the three airfields there will be in the neighborhood of 40 paid employees, civilians, besides about six families of C.A.A. folk. I do not know if these forty will be men with or without families. That is enough folks to continue going down the highway at least once every three weeks. Such program would leave me spend a greater time on the Alaska Railroad. It takes eight or nine days, the way the trains are running now, to do a good job with the places I should get to along the railroad.

Some time ago I wrote you regarding the King's Lake Recreation camp. I gave quite a detailed statement regarding a possible future handling of the camp by our Board, if they would be so interested. Of course working thru our Presbytery. So far I have not had an answer to that communication and I must go to Palmer area within two weeks for a Board of Directors Meeting and a stockholders meeting. It is important to the future of our youth work in Alaska. If we could get hold, by lease for quite some time, of this camp it would certainly save us much building and expense for our own future church youth work. We are now in need of funds to do further building, it comes in a larger amount than we can raise locally. We must meet health office requirements, also camping in Alaska is different than [illegible] the outside as it is cold and rains so much. Would you recheck on the letter I sent to you about five or six weeks ago and then give me an answer on return Mail? I will send in my report next week-- Not so much expense this ti[illegible]

Sincerely,

Rev. B.J. Bingle



September 26, 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Bert J. Bingle
Box 1027
College, Alaska

Dear Bert:

Glad to have your letter of September ninth giving us some outline of what we may expect in your Field. We have been trying to get as much information as possible concerning developments to see what we need to do.

I remember your reference to King's Lake Recreation Camp but was waiting to have from you certain definite things which we must have before it can be presented to the Board. We shall want to know who owns the property, what kind of a lease we can get, how much we would have to pay, whether it would be shared with other groups, who would own the buildings, and if we put money into them, and rather definitely, how much money would be needed to provide the minimum equipment to carry on the summer conference program. A few of these items you have touched on in your former letter but we do not have sufficient definite information yet to present it to the Board.

As a usual thing the Board does not put money into buildings on property that does not belong to us. The only exception to this which we have comes in the case of the Eskimo Churches, in at least two cases, where we have occupancy rights, which are indefinite, rather than the deed to the property.

Can you give us any information on the number of men at Ladd Field and Big Delta? What do you hear about keeping the Highway open or improving it? If it is to be kept open and improved does this mean the whole stretch to Edmonton or just to White Horse. What is happening in the way of permanent developments in Big Delta, Tok Junction, and Gulkana.

I have been trying to lay it upon the Board that we need to do something definite in the way of expansion in our program but have not even had much encouragement yet. We ought to be doing something at Whittier but have no man even if we could find the funds. We have no prospect yet for Barrow but we still have hope. So far as we know Percy has not returned to Wales. I wrote to him and his wife appealing to them to get there as early as possible.

Sorry that Vella did not get to come down to college. I wrote to Dr. George tyring to get in touch with your wife and just had a letter from him indicating that her plans must have changed. We received the publicity material from her so we concluded that she was not able to come down. By the way, this publicity material is in our Publicity Office and we are waiting for a report.

Checking up on personal records the other day, I notice that we do not have a completed information form on you. You filled out a part of the answers but did not complete it. We want the date of your wedding; the birth dates of the children and those of you and your wife. I think most of the rest of it is complete.

While I was away on vacation the copies of the transparencies were returned and I shall get your transparencies off to you in a few days. Thanks for letting me have them.

We note your adjustment in program and are sure that you will do your utmost to continue your important ministry. Give us some report on the progress of your house and garage. We want you to get yourself and your car within four walls before winter sets in.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

MONTHLY REPORT

WAR SERVICE UNIT
Board of National Missions
Presbyterian Church U. S. A.
156 Fifth Avenue, N. Y. 10, N. Y.

Reports are to be made in *triplicate*. The original with voucher attached is to be mailed to the War Service Unit, or to Synod or Presbytery Treasurer as directed. A second copy is to be mailed to Presbytery or Synod Headquarters as directed. The worker is to retain the third copy. (Use other side and additional 8½x11 sheets as needed.)

Church or Project served Central Alaska For the month ending Sept.

Synod Wash. Presbytery Yukon

Name & address of worker Rev. B. J. Bingle

1. What marked change has there been in the situation which would increase or decrease the need for your services?

Less military personel and less civilian personel which are attached to the military post should cut my possibility for service down & where I think one half of the present allotment of 50 00 per month might be a desired amount. This should not start at once but after I make a further survey of my possible additions to present effort. I have some work in mind now which I look into yet very much. -- What is needed for these transients is good reading matter & late current magazines. These I have been purchasing every incoming mail and carrying to the camps -- my [illegible] rec'd from above source has been paying for these and like things I carry to the camps.

2. What were your activities during the past month? Express your judgment as to the effectiveness of the various phases of your work. List activities and average attendance of these. State number of visits made.

3. What are your plans for the next period?

Attach materials which you have developed which you think will have value to other war service workers as well as pictures and publicity material which can be used in the promotion of the War-time Service Fund.

Please do not omit date or P. O. Address

WAR SERVICE UNIT

MONTHLY VOUCHER

CHECK

Please write nothing above this line

Sept 2 — 19—
Date

To **The Board of National Missions**
of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

This is to Certify, that to date, during the month of [illegible] 19[illegible], I have served on the field to which I have been appointed within the bounds of the Synod / Presbytery } of Wash - Yukon and that $ 50 00 is due me for the month's service which I expect to complete.

Sign name with ink. B. J. Bingle

Print name and address below

Pay to Rev. B. J. Bingle
State whether Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss

College Alaska

P.O. Address to which check is to be sent

Please write nothing below this line

Audited for $ ____ By ____

Month of ____

Compared by ____

Check mailed ____

Voucher may be mailed on the 15th of month

10/6/45
ce-out Jg

Jackman Ack

OCT 4 1945

College, Alaska
Oct 2 - 45.

Dr. Earl Jackman
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave -
New York 10 - N.Y.

my dear Dr. Jackman:

Your letter of Sept 26th came - I will ans. by pen as I can go faster. I should be on the road now. I am to go on down Palmer way seeing what can be done with Kings Lake Camp. - We must do something. It will cost more in Christian life & funds to quit.

The camp composed of 6 acres for sure and 66 acres of new homestead land on which final papers should come before long is owned by Stockholders all of whom were - with very few exceptions - members of our Palmer Church - It is set up for 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts - Home makers, & Church groups of every denomination & use. The const. says - also art. of Inc. that it is set up & further the moral, cultural, Recreational, Social & Spiritual interests of those using the camp. The man who gave us the property had a clause inserted that if in the process of years it did not serve the above purposes - or it was allowed to Lapse for a period of one year - not being used - it would fall back to the owner - ie the land. - No Whiskey or beer is allowed on the place. - The idea of my recommendation was to rent the Camp for 50 yrs. - and run the camp under the principles as they have at present,

As a Church or presbytery We can have more unified control — Would be unwieldy & it well not take so much time to keep folk tuned up & in the Spirit of work. As a presbytery - our Churches use the camp about three or 4 wks a year and if we had that guarantee that We could use the camp for 3 or 4 wks each year and the rest of the time give it to the other above organizations for their use it would be better than a camp of our own as it would be run down by non-use, would be pillaged by thieves & become a fire hazard. -- Our church groups would come along & pay the same as other groups - each individual doing pays so much - all of which goes into upkeep & care of Property. - When the buildings are built we should not be paying out funds in particular any more than we do now. -- all this so we can get funds to have adequate housing so we can have adequate camping. The rain & cold Weather makes camping difficult in this country. — Buildings that go on property would have to belong to the Kings Lake Camp Inc. - I think we can raise some money locally but not as much as we need - Health authorities are getting stricter eg. -- I think it will take $5,000 over a period of two or three years to have camp in good shape. — this is perhaps as clear as mud!

Highway:

Present population Ladd Field about 3500 ??
" " Big Delta - 75? - Mayo drop to about 40
" " Tanacross 75? " " " " 40
" " Northway 150? " " " " 40
" " Gulkana 40? Indians - no services
" " Tok Jnc - 20 - will be no less - I think

Highway all the way thru will be maintained as the set up stands at present - The Canadians have promised according to a statement from a Repre. of Milwaukee Journal, That they will spend 2 mil a yr. for next two yrs to maintain their section - determining in that time how best to operate it -- Twice a wk. bus service goes out from here to Whitehorse. The road on the other side of the Canadian Boarder is being put into good shape - never was completely finished - so it all looks good - the population along the road will without doubt increase.

The P.R. out of here has 3 particular points that should be covered with regularity three of which at least once each month. -- I will attempt to do my best with the work on the Highway. Some of the people think every trace wks out on the highway is a little to thin. I must watch that I do not open a way for some small unit to undercut me.

I showed Harry your letter. We spoke about Percy. Last night I saw Elder Hobson - Barrow - just in from Nome & going home - He states Percy is still in Kotzebue as they [illegible]. He also told about his discouragement due to the wife being absent so much of the time. As to that I suppose but his wife stated she asked him not to do so as

It would hurt him so & she would go with him anywhere he wants to go - I asked Elder Peterson why she dont and he dont know, that is the trouble I believe as I told some time back - His wife lost her step father and the mother dear wants her Esta - to stay close by - So she is the "Queen" of the tribe or family & does pretty much as the thinking she might be the cause — another mother-in-law case. -- After talking with Harry I wired our elder Andrew Ewing wrinck at Wales for the status of things. -- Here is the condition briefly - No Church - no School, families all scattered all over Coast up there & if care is not taken we will never have another Church up there. Too there are 5 new Independents or little units organized in Nome. If they find that place open Nothing can stop one outfit from moving in. One man - Swedish Evan. would like to buy the work from us up there so he can connect it with his Little Peninsula Co. work. He would not let another go on there. He would go on there himself first. How do we know he is not there. He owns a plane flies his own plane & does a good consistent piece of work. I may not like all his teachings but he is not to be ignored. Asked in if we were of we could be of help to them. If conditions don't improve one of us should visit over there & see what the score is & Esta remain for a wk or so. If no School & no Nurse. No health program will be there & that means more dead to bury

T.B.

ALASKA HIGHWAY

Our Wedding Date - June 17th 1923.
Velda Irene Bingle born May 8th - 1926
James Douglas Bingle " July 20th 1930
Mrs. Mabel P Bingle - (myself) " Nov. 22nd 1896
Bert F. Bingle - (myself) " June 19th 1896

Status of room or house:

No siding over outdoor celotex - Not all furnishings made (or inside yet - desk & bookcase. No doors on or strips about doors or windows - have celotex on inside - have rooms made & We are living in it after a fashion - but not so inviting yet. - No adequate heating but that can come later.

Status of Garage:

I have a floor down - used the side wall materials of the frame purchased for outbuilding in the house basement. - & will use more. - I have material for siding & celotex for side walls -

I have not had time with the program I have been trying to carry on to do the work on the garage. There is no money to hire anyone to help me. If I pay that I can't buy the materials.

The rain kept me from working also at times.

Thanks for your very encouraging letter. So far I am behind the Aug. Extreme Quota. My offerings this month again have been fair -

Sincerely, Rev. B F Bingle

October 8, 1945

The Rev. Bert J. Bingle
Box 1027
College, Alaska

My dear Mr. Bingle:

Thank you for your letter of October 2nd. Dr. Jackman is away from the office on a field trip and your communication will be brought to his attention just as soon as possible. He expects to return to the office sometime after the middle of the month.

Last Friday we forwarded the twenty transparencies which you so kindly shared with us. We have sent these via airmail and we trust they will reach you in the very near future.

Sincerely yours,

Frieda Koerner, Secretary to
J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

FK

NOV 5 1945

College, Alaska
Oct. 31, 1945.

Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Unit of Alaska Work
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

My report long overdue is enclosed. I have been gone, on the road most of the time with the exception of a few days I attended the American Legion Convention at Seward. A few things I want to enumerate:

I sent my monthly report in after the 15th of Aug.- as usual. I had $150.11 listed as expense. One bill was not quite complete and I could not get it so, hence I put in a written note on it. That may be the cause, but this expense check has never been received by myself. Mrs. Bingle tells me that all others have been received. If for some reason I will have to make out the one bill in question again I will have to revise it, it was more than the amount I stated. I hope I do not have to do so. If any question about the same return all those bills to me and I will make them out as you would want them. At any rate I could use the 150 very nicely as all bills are paid already by myself in advance.

Another item- I do not know if I had any of my $1000.00 expense allowance remaining or not, I cannot check without too much time spent on it. If I do have could not that amount be spent on the manse here where we live. There are no trim about doors and windows, no door frames to mount the doors on, I need one more door, and no siding to cover the celotex on the outside. I figured that not needed but the celotex will not hold so well. At the time of building I could not get siding, hence the outdoor celotex. We could stand some window shades also. Later I need paint to cover whatever the outside is composed of. At present I have used up my two hundred dollar allowance.--Bills not enclosed yet. If you cannot get this for me I will have to purchase some of these items and call it gifts to missions.

A third item:- I know you have heard from Harry about this one and this is somewhat in self defense and yet a suggestion because I believe in it. Two and one half years ago I met a man on the Canol Road who was delivering the mail to the men who had 3 years of training at Biola, above highschool. His wife was a trained nurse with Bible training. Later he worked out of here for the U.S.E.D. and at present he is working for the Road Commission on the Richardson Highway. He came up here to work with a Rev. Hughes at Valdez. Hughes is a good man, so are his co-workers. But the way things developed he was not needed in the set up,- hence his work with the road commission. Everyone on the

ALASKA HIGHWAY

Canol road, those rough and ready pipleline workers, liked him very much. Usually those kind are a pin in the neck. On the Alcan out from here he again was very will liked and exceedingly trusted by the authorities. At his present place , working with another hard lot of road workers, he is again very well liked. I asked the Marshal over there how he was getting along with the men and he stated the very best. This man has come to the jail and held services for his inmates, mostly Indians, trying to get them to change their ways of life. The Marshal certainly thought a great deal about that. (He used to be a trustee in my chrch at Cordova.) Once I asked him if we were ever stuck for a man in one of our hard fields if he would be willing to join the Presbyterian church,-(he is a member of the Christian Church I believe) and work as a layman in that resepective field if requested to do so by our New York office, and further would not sell us out to some Independent organization. He stated if such a time came along he would be pleased to give it consideration. He did not say he would or would not. But if he did he would never sell the work out under us. He is too honest and a square shooter for that. I think I memtioned him to you once in person. When Victor called Harry on the phone about the possibility of using this man Harry did not get all the details, such as joining our church and working as a layman under our committee in the Presbytery. Since we do accept folks from other denominations, since Ann Bannan came from Catholic background and did a marvelous work, since Miss Stauffer I believe came from ot er sources and manned our Artic fields I believe we likewise have a find in that man,-- should we need him.

A fourth item is regarding work:- Yesterday it was reported that in Anchorage there are 600 laborers for an air depot alone, there are to be 600 more. This with their faimiles will be close to 4000 new peoples in the community. Fairbanks is asked to get ready 600 new housing units. This is for one group in particular. Men in service can now bring their families North. This brings in more. I have heard good rumors of other farming adventures, promoted perhaps like the Matanuska Valley. This is still rumor, but not to be discounted too heavily. Figures like that make one bewildered. Rolland has been suggesting that he cannot carry Whittier as he has done and do justice to his own church. He also feels the weight of the mission since the town is growing so rapidly and he needs to spend time in that area. He was hoping that I could give him some relief. My work down the highway cannot be discontinued, my work on the Alaska Railroad should be increased quite a little. Harry has work here that should be added the same as Rolland. He has been suggesting that for two years, with his Esquimo work. For the youth work of our church we need the Kings Lake Camp rebuilt and improved. They will want me to spend more time in that area. --- I come right back to where we were in our conversation at Whitehorse on your way up- we need two men If I do the work that should be done and keep up with my studies I would find no time for one item at home, cannot carry on any correspondence and after so many months of that have to be off the field or go bad physically A man in the Anchorage area and one in this area is one solution,

I will add a last item:- sometime, not to distant future, I want to get a few weeks in school. I have thought of our Christian Edu. school in Chicago, plus McCormick -- If I could think of more jolts to your peace and happiness! Anyway we all feel you are doing a good job so dont let my ramblings worry you to much. I do hope on the contrary it might be some help.

Sincerely,

ALASKA HIGHWAY

November 13, 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Bert J. Bingle
Box 1027
College, Alaska

Dear Bert:

We do not know how it happened that no voucher was received for your expenses for the month of August. When your letter came in we searched the Treasury for this and found that no voucher was received and no check was sent. We are now sending the check covering this expenditure on your part.

We have received a receipted bill for $115. for an expenditure on moving the building which you are using as a foundation for your garage. On the surface of it it would appear that we owe you this money but our records show that in August we sent you an advance of $300. which you were to use as expenses on the garage and give us an accounting with the proper bills later. We have no report on this so we are assuming that this $115. is a part of the expense in getting the garage on your lot. You should have the balance of the advance available to do more work on the garage.

We have also received the bill for some additional material for the extra room on the house. We are asking the Treasury Department to send the Fairbanks Lumber Supply a check for $55.04 to cover this item. You indicate in your letter that you would like to have some more material to finish up some work on the house. We have an additional $100. available for the work on the house and you can call upon us for it as the work proceeds.

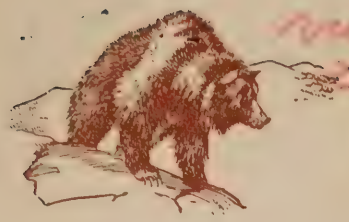
With all your running around the country it is difficult for you to give time to keeping these many accounts straight but there is some indication that your accounts may be mixed up a little bit and we feel it may be wise for you to settle down long enought to straighten them out.

Reading your last letter on needs in Alaska, we realize how many things there are which need to be done. You need never fear about giving me too many headaches because all the requests must go into the hopper and be fitted into the total picture which we can care for from funds available. You may not expect to get all of your requests specified but we try to do our best.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK
Enc. Ck. #41353-$150.11 Aug. Travel Expense



Alaska Highway

NOV 20 1945

College, Alaska.
Nov. 17, 1945.

Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Sec.
Alaska Unit and S.S. Missions
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave.
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

Your letter of Nov. 13th arrived this morning. Thank you so much for the enclosed check. I do not know how it is that my voucher did not reach you for the month. I hope you do not need duplicate bills, but if you wish to have my third copy, or the one I give Harry, I would be pleased to part with that.

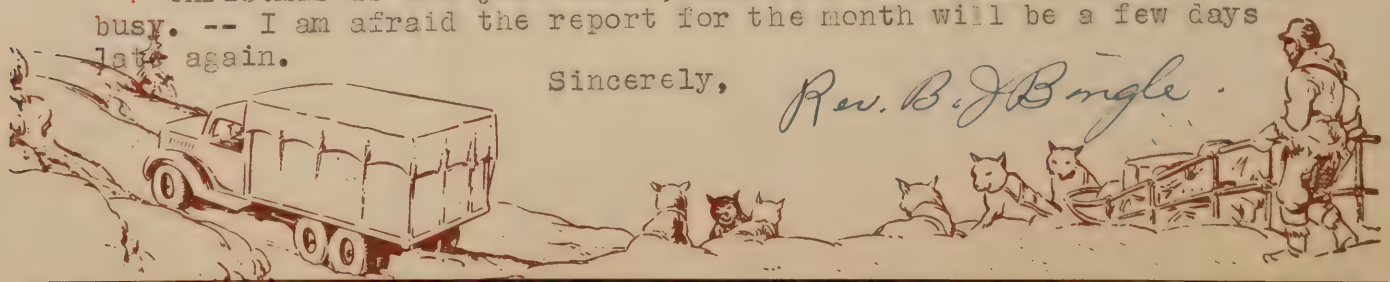
When Mrs. Bingle, my good secretary, sent to you the statement of the first cost on the new Garage it was with the thought of giving my first accounting for the spending of the funds, $3000.00 which you allowed me. You owe me nothing yet and I will not be needing the remainder of the garage allowance till about Dec. 1st. Then I will send you a complete statement.

When I get arighted up with the lumber company on some materials I need yet to obtain I will forward that bill on to you. I really did not think I was confused in my financial accounts, but one never knows what the country may do to him. As to your suggestion about settling down long enough it might be a grand idea, but when I see young folks out in these outlying places with their hearts bent on home, others going there and they not able, when I see the whiskey man never laying off- either on the highway or on the Railroad, then I think the representative of the church should not lay off either. At Curry the other night we had a worship service at eleven oclock at night, the earliest the workers could get off for the time of prayer. Ten were there. I need to get back to that place more than once in 6 weeks and at a time when they do not work. Children are there that needs instruction. It is hard to get there due to trains.-- I was not wrong when I said I need David Crawford to stay with me, but that is past history.

Christmas is now just ahead, and till that time I will be very busy. -- I am afraid the report for the month will be a few days late again.

Sincerely,

Rev. B. J. Bingle.



Alaska Highway

B-J. Bingle - report - duplicate.

Report of Aug. 15. Made Aug 23-45

Presbytery of Yukon - Synod of Wash

I have Expended $150.11 - (200.00 salary - rec'd)

Expenses as follows à

R.R. fare - Healy & return	$6.70	
gas & oil	39.55	
car. repair	3.30	
tires	115.76	
Hotel	5.00	
meals	26.30	
	$196.61	$196.61

I have rec'd from

Big Delta	15.00	
Tanacross	14.50	
Northway	11.00	
TOK Junction	6.00	46.50
	$46.50	$150.11

Total to be repaid →

Rec'd - Payment - Nov. 17-45

Rev. B.J. Bingle.

November 23, 1945
November 23, 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Bert J. Bingle
Box 1027
College, Alaska

Dear Bert:

You have presented a strong plea for some financial help for the development of the King's Lake conference grounds. We realize the advantage there would be in having this under one denominational leadership with participation from other organizations. This would give us the possibility of doing some real development on the grounds and buildings with an element of control over the whole situation which you do not now have. I have presented this to the Cabinet of Missionary Operation and they are very willing to have it put on the approved list of projects feeling it would be a good thing for the Interior of Alaska to have it.

We are under a handicap, however, in presenting the matter to the Board for an appropriation from the Board's already existing funds. There is a rule that the Board will not appropriate funds given to it for mission purposes in projects where we do not own the land on which the buildings are constructed. It was felt that there was small possibility of securing a lump sum appropriation from the Board because of this reason.

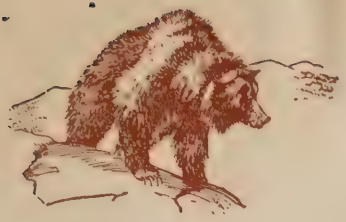
However, we have put it on a list of Alaska needs and we are asking our promotion department to get out a leaflet stressing the needs for development in Alaska within the next few years. Churches and organizations can give money toward this particular thing and get credit for it on their benevolence giving. It goes to the advisory Committee of Missionary Operation next week and we hope they will give it more than just casual approval. We shall report the outcome of it to you at a later date.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

CC: The Rev. H. Harry Champlin, The Rev. R. Rolland Armstrong, The Rev. Victor I. Alfsen.



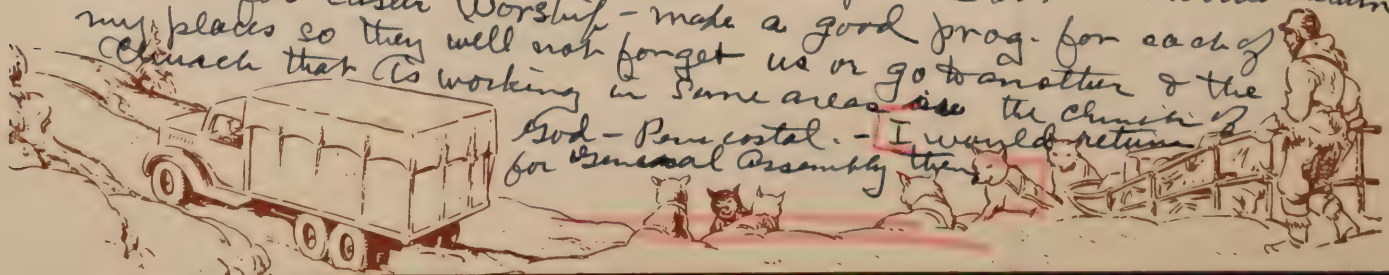
Alaska Highway

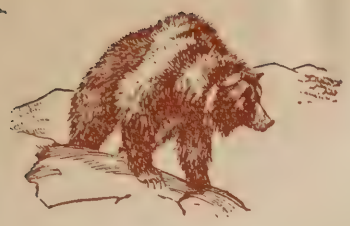
College. Alaska
Dec - 14 - 45

Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Sec
Alaska Unit of S.S. Missions
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave -
New York - 10 - N.Y.

My dear Dr Jackman:

Our Christmas Season has arrived - My groups are smaller but the response is good considering Big Delta and Tanacross both seems on the up grade, at least better with a smaller number personall. My R.R. attendances are very encouraging. - I need the 16mm sound projector, I may write you soon about our furlough. I cannot figure how to get it in with possible work except to go out about mid. Jan. & stay for a couple months school work which I would like to get somewhere around Chicago - I wrote our Christian Edu. School but it dont fit quite right. If I could get some Bible Study & music instruction (sing without instrument & find room on the beam) I would like it. Objection is Jomes dont want to take school work out of Fairbanks - breaking in his studies. I would like him to go out for some Hi school work as I think he is possible church work material. Maybe you could talk to him sometime. I would like to get him to outside church emfluence too. -- I would return to care for Easter Worship - made a good prog. for each of my places so they will not forget us or go to another & the Church that is working in some areas - see the church of God - Pentecostal. - I would return for General Assembly then.

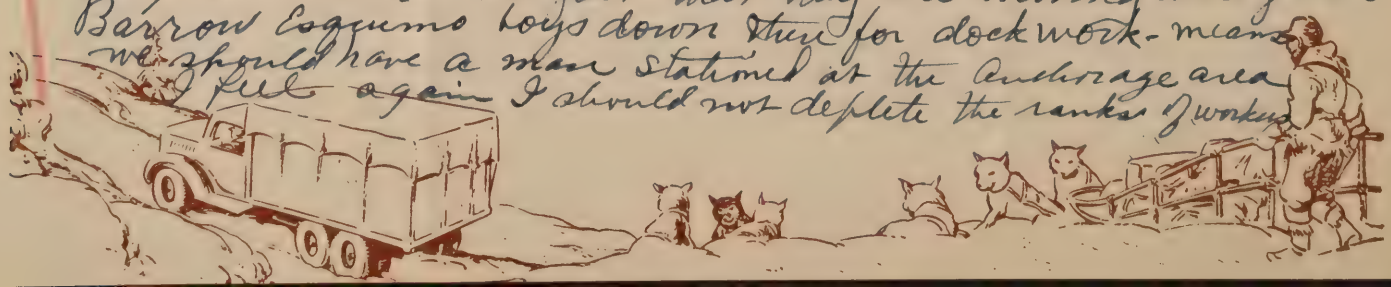




Alaska Highway

On my recent trip down the R.R. I learned that there will be 10 work trains out on the Road next Spring - Summer & autumn till the freeze up. They are elevating the track & fixing it properly. I understand also the Morrison Knudson Co has the contract - but that is not yet. If so it will be set up like the highway construction was. The Mkco had one unit out last autumn & I covered the camps at their place of operation. They will want me to repeat.

There is an "Off the record" conference in Wash. right now. It deals with possible drilling at Barrow area, pipeline connections with Fairbanks, roads enroute also & a land transportation North & West of Fairbanks also the old R.R. connection with the States is not forgotten. These surely will not all come about at once - or over a few years but the R.R. 10 work trains is a sure item, also plenty more highway work - the Alcan besides the maintainence, plus some work on the Richardson, and other areas North. Since we open & this Industrial Chaplain work we should do a thorough coverage of it. -- It is all War work in a way so War Time Service can cover it. -- For this reason I don't feel I can afford to be gone for the good of the work - over too many weeks at a time. With the new addition of Whittier & our assignment - and the fact that they are moving some of our Barrow Eggumo boys down there for dock work - means we should have a man stationed at the Anchorage area full again I should not deplete the ranks of workers



Alaska Highway

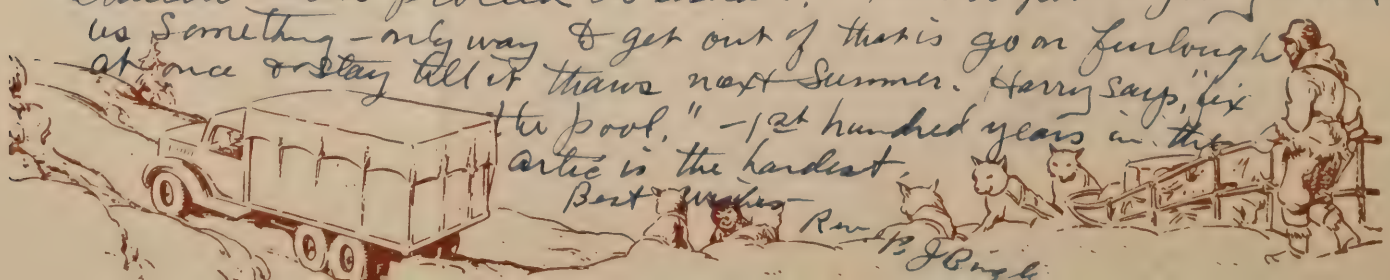
Regarding our King's Lake Camp: I thank you for your assurance of help. Do not do anything yet about it till you hear from me. I don't quite get the picture from this far-away-place of what is happening at Anchorage regarding the camp. I called the banker, Mr. Rasmussen, the other day & I must see someone soon about it. When I get a little away from that push down there some things don't seem to get done. I wrote both Rev. Alfsen & Rev. Armstrong. They will not have time to answer for a week yet.

Excuse me for putting this in pen & ink. I don't use the typewriter enough to keep in practice with a heap of mistakes. If I write a short letter I can get by but not for a long letter. — A little less attempted speed would help out! —

Everything happens quick & thick. Working on my Garage, The whole Cess pool filled up & it is impossible to put me ounce of water in it — Trying to get out my Christmas mail & have my Church work proceed as usual. — The Cess pool is going to cost us something — only way to get out of that is go on furlough at once or stay till it thaws next Summer. Harry says, "fix the pool." — 12th hundred years in the attic is the hardest.

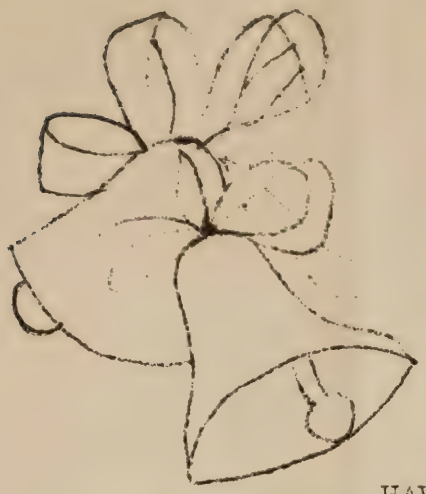
Best wishes

Rev. P. J. Bingle



Dr. J. E Jackman:

DEC 18



A

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A

HAPPY NEW YEAR

TO: RELATIVES, FRIENDS, MEN IN SERVICE;
AND TO THOSE IN CONSTRUCTION CAMPS

CHRISTMAS IS PARTLY OVER ALREADY FOR US, HAVE HELD FOUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES DOWN THE ALASKA RAILROAD. AT LEAST THIRTEEN MORE WILL BE HELD DOWN THE ALASKA MILITARY HIGHWAY. TWO HUNDRED MILES IN ONE DIRECTION AND FOUR HUNDRED MILES IN ANOTHER ARE THE DISTANCES.

SMALL UNITS OF ARMY MEN ARE WATCHMEN FOR THE AIRPORTS; TELEPHONE MEN HAVE NOT ALL LEFT THE REPEATER STATIONS ALONG THE HIGHWAY, THE C.A.A. WITH INCREASED PERSONEL ARE CARING FOR THE AIRPORTS AND THE RESPECTIVE MAINTAINANCE CAMPS HAVE SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF MEN TO KEEP THE HIGHWAY IN FIRST CLASS CONDITION. TO EACH OF THESE UNITS THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH THROUGH MYSELF AS WAR TIME SERVICE WORKER ADMINISTERS. NEXT SUMMER IT APPEARS WE WILL HAVE MUCH MORE WORK TO DO.

THE HIGHWAY IS EXCEEDINGLY GOOD. THE BRIDGES ARE A-1, COULD HARDLY BE BETTER EVEN IN THE STATES. THE HIGHWAY HAS NEVER BEEN CLOSED SINCE IT WAS OPENED. SPRING THAWS OR ENDLESS MUSKEG DOES NOT EFFECT IT. ORDINARY CARE KEEPS IT ALWAYS IN SHAPE. IT APPEARS THAT IT WILL ALWAYS BE KEPT OPEN AND IMPROVED OR BETTERED. DONT LISTEN TO PROPAGANDA AGAINST IT. I CANNOT GUESS WHEN IT WILL BE OPEN TO THROUGH TRAFFIC FOR JOHN DOE OR A MISS ADAMS.

FOR MY CHRISTMAS WORSHIP I AM USING CATHEDRAL FILM SLIDES. YOU WHO ARE IN A POSITION TO DO SO- USE THEM SOMETIME . YOU WILL LIKE THEM FOR BOTH YOUTH AND ADULT.

THE FAMILY IS WELL. MRS. BINGLE KEEPS THE MACHINERY GOING AT THE HOUSE. VELLA WORKS AT THE TELEPHONE EXCHANGE. JAMES IS IN HIGHSCHOOL, SECOND YEAR. EACH MAKE A GOOD CONTRIBUTION TO THE TOTAL PROGRAM OF WORK FOR CHRIST IN ALASKA. EACH INCLUDING MYSELF SEND TO EACH ONE RESPECTIVELY OUR GREATEST AFFECTION FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR. MAY GOD BE WITH YOU EACH DAY OF THE JOURNEY.

- THE BINGLES, NEAR FAIRBANKS,
ADDRESS: COLLEGE,
ALASKA.

DEC 18 1945

College, Alaska
Dec. 15 - - 45 -

Yukon Ch

Dr. J. E. Jackman
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave -
New York - 10 - N.Y.

of bal
DS #679

My dear Dr. Jackman:

I am in the immediate need of the remaining $200.00 for the garage. This is my disposition of the case so far. Time for building on my part was just out of the question - 2nd building materials were & are impossible to get. I have siding on the house up about 4 ft. from the ground on one side - No more in town and the strike in Washington State makes it worse. We had one shipping strike and another is a rumor. The Morrison/Knudson Co. were selling quansit huts so I bought half of one, $150.00 & have it out here but not in place yet. The lumber I bought on the first deal I will use to put a good floor in & an end on the quansit. (also more or position with "cat") - I have had to use a portion of the lumber on the basement walls of the house - also will on the cesspool I am trying to fix. So no waste. -- The $500.00 should cover all phases - I hope. It will give a larger garage than originally planned and last for some length of time.

I hope this will be satisfactory. I talked it over with Harry and he told me to do as I thot best. What I would have liked to do I could not - Therefore I did the best and only thing that could be done.

Please use no words, if possible of pansion up here in any publication material as I would be prohibited from working in these areas -- Until I state when it can be said. (given in yesterdays' letter -) Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas - Will go South on the Highway Mon. back Christmas eve - Sincerely, Rev. P. J. Bringle.

JAN 2 1946

College, Alaska
Dec. 26 - 1945.

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
Board of National Missions
156 7th Ave -
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

Enclosed you will find two Appl. blanks for Clergy Certificate. Will you attach a brief note, to each telling the agency I am a bonafide missionary under the Presbyn Ch. The Assembly Minutes lists me as Ind. Chaplain and W.T.S. only - (P 937 Pt. I) This may not be needed but it also may help.

Had fine Christmas Services down the Highway. The Army men, Highway maintainers, Airport personel and C.A.A. all seem to appreciate my coming very much -

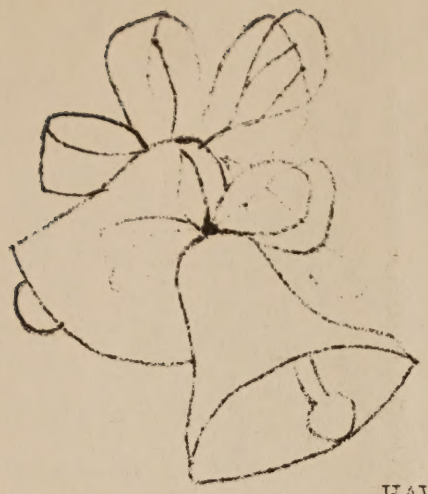
Hope you enjoyed Christmas as much as I have - - - Will be quite busy till Presbytery - must go on one week -

Please send reply or Western Appl. blank by Air mail to Chicago as it may be needed shortly - Operated on 1944 one up here this year. - Can hardly stretch it two years -

Thanks - and a Happy New Year

Rev. B.J. Dingle

When Victory is won, may this great Highway be used as a link of everlasting peace and friendship with our great neighbour and ally....the U.S.S.R.



A

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A

HAPPY NEW YEAR

TO: RELATIVES, FRIENDS, MEN IN SERVICE;
AND TO THOSE IN CONSTRUCTION CAMPS

CHRISTMAS IS PARTLY OVER ALREADY FOR US, HAVE HELD FIVE CHRISTMAS SERVICES DOWN THE ALASKA RAILROAD. AT LEAST THIRTEEN MORE WILL BE HELD DOWN THE ALASKA MILITARY HIGHWAY. TWO HUNDRED MILES IN ONE DIRECTION AND FOUR HUNDRED MILES IN ANOTHER ARE THE DISTANCES.

SMALL UNITS OF ARMY MEN ARE WATCHMEN FOR THE AIRPORTS; TELEPHONE MEN HAVE NOT ALL LEFT THE REPEATER STATIONS ALONG THE HIGHWAY; THE C.A.A. WITH INCREASED PERSONEL ARE CARING FOR THE AIRPORTS AND THE RESPECTIVE MAINTAINANCE CAMPS HAVE SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF MEN TO KEEP THE HIGHWAY IN FIRST CLASS CONDITION. TO EACH OF THESE UNITS THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH THROUGH MYSELF AS WAR TIME SERVICE WORKER ADMINISTERS. NEXT SUMMER IT APPEARS WE WILL HAVE MUCH MORE WORK TO DO.

THE HIGHWAY IS EXCEEDINGLY GOOD. THE BRIDGES ARE A-1; COULD HARDLY BE BETTER EVEN IN THE STATES. THE HIGHWAY HAS NEVER BEEN CLOSED SINCE IT WAS OPENED. SPRING THAWS OR ENDLESS MUSKEG DOES NOT EFFECT IT. ORDINARY CARE KEEPS IT ALWAYS IN SHAPE. IT APPEARS THAT IT WILL ALWAYS BE KEPT OPEN AND IMPROVED OR BETTERED. DONT LISTEN TO PROPAGANDA AGAINST IT. I CANNOT GUESS WHEN IT WILL BE OPEN TO THROUGH TRAFFIC FOR JOHN DOE OR A MISS ADAMS.

FOR MY CHRISTMAS WORSHIP I AM USING CATHEDRAL FILM SLIDES. YOU WHO ARE IN A POSITION TO DO SO- USE THEM SOMETIME . YOU WILL LIKE THEM FOR BOTH YOUTH AND ADULT.

THE FAMILY IS WELL. MRS. BINGLE KEEPS THE MACHINERY GOING AT THE HOUSE. VELLA WORKS AT THE TELEPHONE EXCHANGE. JAMES IS IN HIGHSCHOOL, SECOND YEAR. EACH MAKE A GOOD CONTRIBUTION TO THE TOTAL PROGRAM OF WORK FOR CHRIST IN ALASKA. EACH INCLUDING MYSELF SEND TO EACH ONE RESPECTIVELY OUR GREATEST AFFECTION FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR. MAY GOD BE WITH YOU EACH DAY OF THE JOURNEY.

- THE BINGLES, NEAR FAIRBANKS,
ADDRESS: COLLEGE,
ALASKA.